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CANADA'S WEEKLY NEWSMAGAZINE

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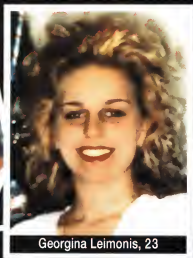
# Maclean's

# MURDER

# NEXT DOOR



Joan Heimbecker, 25



Georgina Leimonis, 23



Nicholas Battersby, 27

**THREE BRUTAL KILLINGS AND  
THE LEGACY OF FEAR**



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Excited testimony could lead to the reopening of a sensational murder case involving former undercover drug agent Patrick Kelly

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Frederic Back's genius as an amateur is evident in his latest Oscar-nominated work.

## TE FILMS

A documentary focuses on the brilliant, morally suspect Levi Schneidstahl, two imports deal with love while an American movie parodies TV suburbs.

## 24. ROTHENBERG, M.

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## Murder next door

**14** Three brutal killings have touched off outpourings of grief for the victims—and fear and rage among shaken Canadians. While the nation's murder rate has in fact held steady, the senseless slayings provoked heated debate about how best to prevent crime—and how to keep Canadian cities from following their violence-wracked American counterparts.

## A very private lady

**28** *Alise Christie shows the limelight, but she has long been one of her husband's most trusted advisers. In an exclusive interview with Marissa's, she tells of the difficulties in adjusting to life at 34 Sussex Drive.*



The end of  
the line

**50** Squeezed by high taxes and labor costs and confronted by growing volumes of north-south trade with the United States, Canada's two rail companies prepare to rationalize their operations in Eastern Canada. Most observers expect the West will follow and that a national rail link—and a national dream—will end.





## LETTERS

### Sex and politics

Sixty-five years after the judicial committee of the British Privy Council ruled that women were advised "persons" at the eyes of the law and thus eligible for appointment to the Senate, much more for appointment as minister. The review of both sexes to women in power, including Deputy Prime Minister Sheila Copps is still very disappointing ("Role" with a critic, Cover, April 4). A woman with political power is still seen as a threat.

Robert Gundersen,  
Nanaimo, B.C.

Just when we could almost forgive the party that brought us the National Energy Program, we get Sheila Copps, deputy prime minister. Long live Jean Chretien.

Daryl Gustavica,  
Stewart Park, Alta.

In your profile of Sheila Copps, you refer to a mixture of state in *The Toronto Star* as uncritical. But just another example of the global conspiracy to put caricatures and all business by making real life so outrageous that it's impossible to believe. I recall recently to hear Cbc Radio reporting a study that found Great Lakes pollution was responsible for changing the reproductive organs of the species' animals, including, reflecting peak contamination, I called the office of the minister of the environment, which confirmed the information. I could imagine the predominantly male CEO's of companies discharging toxic oil severely crossing their lips and sending out for baked goods. As for your suggestion that this criticism was motivated by misogyny, I think you are confusing misogyny with admiration. Choosing to emphasize this particular area seems for pure sexism to me.

Peter Pickering,  
Pittsboro, Ont.

### Better or worse

It was stated in your March 7 cover story ("Ralph's way") that Alberta Premier Ralph Klein was divorced from his first wife after three years of marriage. Please let the record show that Ralph Klein and Hilda Hepper were married in April, 1965, and divorced in April, 1971. They were not all blessed, but it was 12 years nonetheless.

Nigel Lupat,  
Arden, Ont.



Copps: 'Still seen as a threat'

### Portrait of shame

I think your cover is shameful ("A few bad apples" March 20). You have a portrait of a man found guilty of murder in the horrendous torture of a young Somali—bad justice has in the way I would expect to find a hero.

Shirley M. Shewell,  
Winnipeg

There is no doubt that young Pte. Eric Kyle Brown is guilty of losing sight of the bond—any between legitimate soldiering and his own decency, but is he guilty of manslaughter? Those of us who have been soldiers know and understand that the responsibility for troops in the field belongs to the senior unit commander and the senior-most non-commissioned officer on the ground. The real "blame" belongs to those who accept the responsibility of leadership.

Michael D. Martin,  
Quebec, N.E.

I was glad to see that you went beyond the sensationalism and showed the bigger picture of the accomplishments of Canadian peacekeepers in Somalia. Unfortunately, the events of that night will be used as justification for politicians to cut military spending further, and will reduce Canada's already in adequate ability to respond to any foreign or domestic crisis.

Arthur Major,  
London, Ont.

I don't think the Somali youth should have been killed. But I do know the frustration of being a peacekeeper and all the hell you go

through. When the people you are trying to help don't want you there and make it very clear your attitude towards them gets them hell in a hurry. Canadian peacekeepers have been put in a lot of dangerous spots by the abuse that runs the United Nations, and have done a remarkable job. By writing this article you have made the Airborne troops look like a coward and coward to society. Our family has had three of us serve with the Airborne and we are hardly the type portrayed in your article.

Tony Fraser,  
St. Catharines, Ont.

### A family's loss

It was heartbreaking to learn that the results of a longitudinal study conducted by the Centre for Alcohol Studies in the RCMP had been suppressed in such an irresponsible manner ("Booze and the badge," Special Report, March 20). As parents of Michael Miller, the teenager who died in the accident described in the opening paragraph of your article, we find it totally unacceptable that the RCMP has shown such indifference. Now that the problem of alcohol abuse in our law enforcement agencies has become a national issue, maybe those in authority will finally address this very serious problem. Our family has been totally devastated by the loss of our son Michael, and we will spend the rest of our lives wondering whether, if the 1989 report had been acted upon, our son would still be alive today.

Reena and Scott Miller,  
Saskatoon, P.E.I.

### Misunderstanding

Alan Fotheringham's column ("Order: Standing Canada's enemy," March 20), the enemy being Lucien Bouchard, contains many of the biases English Canadian media have against Quebec nationalists for the past 30 years. Lucien Bouchard is an intelligent (as between all things) "They are of humble origins (so they tend to be misinterpreted). They are animated by religious fervor" (so they will go to any length to achieve their objectives). They have become bitter and they are hypocritical (so they lack judgment and cannot be trusted). This arrogant contempt for Bouchard and Quebec nationalists perpetuates the misunderstanding and justifies the fear-mongering of Quebec nationalists.

David Tremblay,  
Puducherry, Que.

Madison's anonymous reader, whom you had better may be asked to go and check. Please really come within and don't get into the habit of being a liar. Madison's magazine, 177 Bay St. Toronto, Ont. M5H 1G7. Tel: 416-593-7778.

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# OPENING NOTES

## The game of Ginn

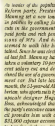
Nonreader-federal cabinet conservatives in building this week to review the government's controversial decision to issue a verbal commitment by the Conservative Party to back textbook publisher Ginn Canada Ltd., to its former American parent, media mouthpiece Paramount Communications Inc. Not only has Blue Quebecer Leader Lucien Bouchard led the attack on the Liberals for backing their "Red Book" campaign to protect Canadian culture, but some of the strongest objections to the sale have come from the party's own benches—possibly from Toronto area MPs. *ANNO*



AMM: 'He blew me out of the water'

There is Denise Miller, parliamentary secretary to Ontario Minister John Manley who was left to answer Bouchard's questions for Manley in the House last month. As Miller acknowledges "Of course, he [Bouchard] blew me out of the water," indeed Miller confessed to Bouchard after the debate and told him as much—and more. "I said 'You were it was obvious to me that I didn't feel comfortable as soon as he read the notes for the official explanation he was supposed to give to the House, prepared for him by his ministers.' I couldn't quite make anything out of it, so I said 'then back,' he explained. "Whenever you put a lot of notes in front of you and it doesn't quite give you all the more questions?" Not so much the only Liberal pressing cabinet to rethink an issue that has become explosive. "I think the issue of Ginn and how that was managed is the ultimate concern," he said. "But I'm not done."

In issue of the popular Reform Party, Preston Manning set a new tone in politics by calling for cuts in the government-owned party and his positions of MPs and he seemed to walk like he talked. Since he was elected at last fall, Manning has taken a voluntary 70 per cent salary cut and eliminated the use of a government car. And last week, the 42-year-old, 6'1-inch, 160-lb. former law sportsman by sports designer Hugo Boss, acknowledged that the party's executive council provides him with a \$20,000 expense account to pay for clothing, dry cleaning, a heated car and trips to Ottawa for himself, wife Sandra and their five children. The announcement set off a storm of controversy, mostly among his own party. Last week, he tried to quell the debate by agreeing to provide receipts for his purchases. But that did little to subside Reform MPs, who are deeply divided over the propriety of Manning's allowance. *Excerpted from the magazine June/July.*



Meaning: questions of propriety

## Family feud

Memo released by the Reform party outlines concerns. "This controversy has not been generated by our political opponents. It has been based on an incomplete and inaccurate information on the subject circulating in the media, and commented upon by Reformers, including members of caucus."

Harper: "It is not so why they would turn it into an attack on caucus. It's not up to me to anticipate press reactions perpetrated by the party."

## WORD FOR WORD

Reform MP Jan Brown (Calgary Southeast). "The hat has been on Preston since this started, and that's not right! The best he could do is executive council, because they're his advisers and they should have the intelligence to give him good advice. They gave him very bad advice. And now look how everyone is criticizing him that... 'We'll be the thing that's done in the House of Commons' next week. This is just a fool for the government."

Reform spokesman Ron Wood, defending a clothing allowance for Manning by describing how the Reform leader looked in 1988. "He wasn't at all well dressed."

## BEST-SELLERS

### FICTION

1. *Life After Death*, Douglas Coupland (\$2.95)
2. *The Stone Diaries*, Carol Shields (\$2.95)
3. *The Bridges of Madison County*, Jane Smiley (\$2.95)
4. *Like Water for Chocolate*, Laura Esquivel (\$2.95)
5. *On Dangerous Ground*, Neil Gaiman (\$2.95)
6. *The Secret Garden*, Frances Hodgson Burnett (\$2.95)
7. *The Maltese Falcon*, D. S. (2) (\$2.95)
8. *Poetry Dictates Its Own*, Emily Dickinson (\$2.95)
9. *Disappearance*, Michael Ondaatje (\$2.95)
10. *Living with the Dead*, Joyce Kilmer (\$2.95)

( ) Fiction list only

### NONFICTION

6. *There's a Girl in the Palace*, John G. (2) (\$2.95)
7. *First Things First*, Sylvia Ostry (\$2.95)
8. *How We Eat*, Harvey Kuper (\$2.95)
9. *On the Record*, Louis Lomax (\$2.95)
10. *Web of Life*, Robert Kennedy (\$2.95)
11. *Against Hope*, Thomas Mann, David Cohen (\$2.95)
12. *Women Who Run with the Wolves*, Clarissa Pinkola Estés (\$2.95)
13. *Emerson by the Light*, Emily Dickinson (\$2.95)
14. *The Poetics of the Morning*, Sylvia Ostry (\$2.95)
15. *Living with the Dead*, Joyce Kilmer (\$2.95)

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## Sportswriting by numbers

Roger Meehan, 42, married sportswriter, a computer programmer that turns the two lives into a football or basketball game into a newspaper report. He has sold the \$100,000 worth of his 80 small personal papers, mostly in the U.S. Midwest, through Ziff Davis, the company he set up recently in Rochester, Minn., to develop and market the program. Now, those two sources provide the last Meehan—what, where, when—and even the result, but not the how, the who or the color. In other words, it reads much like a *Sports Illustrated* story. The program originates data, provided by an amateur reporter and punched in by an editor, producing only "fairly generic results," Meehan acknowledges. That is why it is available for



and writer. "Actually," he said, "those that will blossom more than the computer program." At least until somebody comes up with software to replace him. Meehan is banking on the computer at his house, which can provide the home, the who, the color—and the last W.

## A bird in flight

Pat Gillick, the Toronto Blue Jays' executive vice-president of baseball operations who is generally credited with building the team into two-time World Series champions, plans to retire at the end of this season. Gillick, 56, who has directed every major winning season since 1981, has been with the team three years ago when he would leave the grid of running a big league team after the 1994 campaign. He has done everything to prepare for his departure, from promoting his successor, assistant general manager Clint Hurdle, to making plans to travel with his wife, Doris, and running his private jet because that he has asked to connect with president Paul Bissonnette that he will actually leave the Jays behind. Hurdle, the business half of the Jays' on-field management



Gillick: insisting that his retirement is far real

punch, doubts that Gillick can resist the allure of his dream—or the owner to help him "I don't see this as far going out," Bissonnette says. "I still see this as far going out with all the usual guys, only there's a different part at the level of the ball." Bissonnette, "I don't see him leaving to fly," Gillick, executive, admits that his retirement is far real. "I don't think I'll be around," he says. "But just that because he's afraid to fly with me."

## PASSAGES



DIED: Canadian entrepreneur Frank Griffiths, 77, owner of the Vancouver-based Canadian of the National Hockey League, a North Vancouver hospital, after recurring health problems. An accountant by training, Griffiths bought the station CBNV in New Westminster, B.C., in 1968, and went on to create development of Western International Communications Ltd., which owns eight TV stations and 11 radio stations. Griffiths bought the Canada in 1971 and served as the CBC's vice-president from 1979 until 1987.

DIED: Kurt Cobain, 27, lead singer and songwriter of the popular grunge rock band Nirvana, apparently by suicide with a shotgun at his Seattle home. Nirvana released the album *In Utero*, with the Seattle Late Times Spirit, in 1991, and he died last year.

RETIRED: Justice Harry Blackmun, 85, dean of the U.S. Supreme Court and author of the 1973 Roe v. Wade decision that gave American women the fundamental right to abortion. Blackmun moved to the left after 24 years on the nine-member court, to become one of just two members of its liberal wing.

DIED: Andrew Pollock, 98, a pioneer of the Canadian wine industry, at his home in Ancaster, Ont. In 1961, Pollock established the A.C. Winery Ltd., now a multi-million-dollar enterprise with five wineries in Canada.

DIED: Thomas Kuhn, 91, one of Canada's leading historical novelists, at his home in Los Angeles, Calif. Kuhn, who wrote the 1956 novel *The Night and the Day*, was three Governor General's Awards for literature.

DIED: Carlton Williams, 81, president of the University of Western Ontario from 1967 until 1987, in hospital in London, Ont., after a long illness.

APPOINTED: Sandra Ngila, Edouardine, became national editor, Kwanish M. White, 33, as editor, according to John Fraser.

AWARD: The Irish writer Seamus Heaney (1929-1992) for research career excellence in University of Toronto research. Adrian Brock (journalism), Andy Salzman (journalism) and David Thorne (journalism), the first three of the 100,000 awards, made available by the Canada Council since 1951, have gone to a single university.

## POP MOVIES

Top movies in Canada's ranked according to box-office receipts during the seven days first ended on April 7 (in brackets: number of screens/theater showing)

1. *The 400 Blows* (1970) ... \$11,100
2. *Hotel New York* (1970) ... \$10,100
3. *Major League* (1989) ... \$9,800
4. *Schindler's List* (1993) ... \$9,700
5. *The Paper* (1970) ... \$9,600

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6. *Thelma & Louise* (1991) ... \$8,100
7. *Difficult* (1970) ... \$7,800
8. *The House of the Spirits* (1970) ... \$7,600
9. *Amityville* (1979) ... \$7,500
10. *Mr. Smith* (1970) ... \$7,400

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and everyday stress, the acidophiles and bifidum you need in your digestive system can become depleted. Biobest can help restore these cultures.

Inadequate levels of acidophiles and bifidum can sometimes contribute to digestive problems that could make your body more susceptible to illness. Indeed, the older you get, the more important their restoration can become to maintaining good health.

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## COLUMN



# The forecast: a long, hot summer

BY DIANE FRANCIS

With political crises in South Africa, Japan, Britain, North Korea and across most continents, it's easy for North Americans to be blasé. But it is totally inappropriate. This could be one of the continent's longest, hottest summers, with considering that 1994 marked the beginning of an unstable, three-way trade truce. The Americans, Canadians and Mexicans face difficult, and economically destabilizing issues in coming months. And problems in one affect the other two in never before.

As to illustrate this new dependency, the day the North American Free Trade Agreement went into effect as just a Mexican's southernmost Chiapas region exploded. Rebels seized four towns and demanded democratic reforms. This was followed quickly by the May-1994 kidnapping in Mexico City of high-ranking officials. Alfredo Halc, a consultant of President Carlos Salazar de Gortari, then on March 23 Salazar's handpicked successor and friend, Luis Donaldo Collos Martinez, was assassinated. Assassins told Canadian leaders and mutual fund investors how difficult this was in Mexican stocks, and the price, declined in value with each violent event.

On the night of the assassination I was in Mexico with Collos's archival, presidential confidante Claudio Marcelo Carvajal Salazar. He left, as I do, that Mexico is in for much more violence in Chiapas and elsewhere until the country becomes a complete free, mature democracy. Salazar has liberated the country, opening up a President's list of expectations, honest and unadorned. Last week, a crisis in Chiapas, but more violence may occur as the country heads towards a scheduled presidential election on June 12.

It was interesting to note that the day after Collos's assassination, President Bill Clinton and Prime Minister Jean Chretien were each forced to strictly defend the trade deal. Mexico's economic stability and its political

*Americans, Canadians and Mexicans face an economically destabilizing season of controversies and elections*

systems, Clinton attempted to allay investor concerns by giving congressional statements on TV. So did Chretien, as Mexico City the day of the assassination for the opening of a Canadian trade show.

The United States and Canada also face steady situations. The U.S. dollar and markets have reacted negatively, and destabilized, to the so-called revolutions concerning the Clinton/Whitehouse affair, now under special investigation. In addition, economic globalization, hardship and discrimination continue to plague and divide Americans as they head towards congressional and Senate elections this fall. America's gigantic sack of national optimism is in a poverty mood though Washington now spends more on social spending than it spends on defence. American life in line as depicted cities like Los Angeles or New York. We saw just one incident away from a full-scale riot.

Canada is still plagued with violence at the moment, but we will contribute in the current's landscape as we head towards another Quebec provincial election on the issue of separation. In the past, the Canadian dollar has weakened and interest rates have risen drastically in this emotional and divisive se-

son once again catapults our country into world headlines. The devastation of the dollar has already begun because of the Soviet reform budget, and will accelerate if the separatist Parti Quebecois continues to have strong support in the polls. This is because the possibility that Canada could become the world's next Carthage is a nightmare to foreign leaders.

Another worry is that Canada may have a mini-Chiang, or armed conflict, with aboriginals in Quebec, opened to separation of the province. The Cree, for instance, have stated that they led an obligation to honor the results of a referendum if a majority of Quebecers vote to leave Canada. Any potential violence seems capital to lead for the bulls. For example, the Canadian dollar weakened in value in March after dynamic damaged a Hydro-Quebec pipeline on the Saskatchewan river.

Finally, the American dollar fell quickly in early March after a newsletter claimed that the body of Whitehouse-linked Clinton, Vice President, had been moved to the park where it was found. That raised the spectre of a coup and, even more outrageous, the possibility that Clinton was not a presidential candidate but the victim of a plot. So far, nothing serious has stuck, but proof of a coup could conceivably topple the Clinton presidency and end the currency stabilizing.

What is becoming apparent is that the increasing economic interdependence on the continent means that trouble in one will increasingly affect the others. Violence in Chiapas cost American and Canadian mutual fund investors billions. Dynamite in Quebec cost U.S. lenders billions.

Clinton came to the rescue of the sagging peso after California's assassination by giving an ultimatum to Cuban partners. He announced that the United States and Mexico had an \$8-billion swap agreement designed to prop up the value of the peso. Obviously, a similar backdrop would be provided for Canada should dangerous steps in the currency war concerning Quebec separation. Such measures as the \$100/Canadian of Washington, between Wall Street firms and investors on the book for the lion's share of investment in Mexico and are used to buy all of Canada's foreign debt.

There are other reasons for Americans to examine this landscape and understand the current's progress and stable. Collapsed pesos or Canadian dollars would result in stepping off their margins by Mexicans into America's overcrowded markets, as well as a temporary, huge trade advantage for Canadian and Mexican exporters. This unbalanced currency or economic instability would be a drop in the entire current. Canada and Mexico are America's two biggest trade partners and the United States is the largest buyer of Canadian and Mexican goods and services.

As these three angles head into a season of controversies and elections, it will become even more obvious that Americans, Canadians and Mexicans share an increasingly common economic and political fate.





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# ORDER NEXT DOOR

BY RAE CORBELL

To the white middle class of Canada, indoctrinated by cinematic novels and TV cop shows to look for motive and opportunity, violent crime used to follow patterns. Bandits robbed banks because that's where the money was. Husband and wife bled out from the public dais walked one another in drunken rages. Brawlies broke into the homes of the wealthy because they contained valuable things to steal. If a citizen got mugged, many Canadians might well conclude that he had been in the wrong part of town and should have known better. For years, the middle class—shaken only rarely by murder in its midst—was a spectator, complacent within its superiority to the ugliness of the times. Not any more. There is a new kind of crime evident across the land. Its motivation seems to be no more than violence itself. It is emotional. It is deadly. Its enemy when it appears is anyone who gets in the way. Which is why middle-class people are no longer just spectators. They have become targets as well.

From the East Coast to the West, a citizen large and small, hardly a week passes without newspaper or TV accounts of another drive-by shooting, home invasion or brutal neighborhood robbery of a charity binger or fast-food restaurant—crimes usually unknown just a few years ago. On March 27 in Ottawa, Nicholas Blandford, a 27-year-old British engineer, was killed as he walked along a street by a shot fired from a passing Jeep. The grief and outrage touched all by Blandford's death had not subsided when, three days later in Hamilton, 25-year-old McMaster University student Juan Reinbrecker was mortally wounded by a shotgun blast, allegedly fired by an acquaintance.

But the senseless killing was not over. Last week in Toronto, three men pinched a popular outdoor dessert parlor. The intruders dressed money and beat those



who hesitated. Then, seemingly at random, one of these fatally wounded 20-year-old Georgian Leimons with a shotgun blast before they fled. An angry police Chief William McCormick warned of spreading urban terrorism, and Toronto City Councilor John Adams declared, "It's a loss of innocence for the whole community."

Beyond the bleak warnings, heated emotion and strident demands for tough measures to protect ordinary people, there is some reassurance about the nature of Canadian society that may, given current pessimism, be overlooked. For example, the latest crime figures from Statistics Canada show that the annual national murder rate of two per 100,000 population hasn't changed since 1988, except for 1991 when it was three. And although the rate for all crimes of violence in 1992 was nearly 25 per cent higher than in 1988, Statistics Canada reported that part of the increase may be due to the greater willingness of Canadians, particularly sexually assaulted women, to report personal crimes to the police. On top of that, the Canadian statistics pale beside American ones. The Canadian robbery rate, for instance, is 121 per 100,000 population; in the States, it is 560. The Canadian assault rate is \$50 per 100,000; the American, 2,050.

However, it is the kind of crime that maddens public perception—and what the Canadian public evidently perceives is bad news. In a *Maclean's* TV poll conducted by Devis Research and published in the Jan. 4, 1993, issue of that magazine, fully half of adult Canadians said they felt more threatened by crime than they had the years before. Perhaps most disturbing of all was that of those who felt more threatened by crime, 42 per cent looked upon in-

*Complacent Canadians are shaken by a new kind of random violence*

creased immigration as "a bad thing." When a become known that the three men involved in the killing of Georgian Leimons were black, some callers to Toronto radio phone-in shows demanded that police begin identifying suspects by race.

The public perception, of course, is based on much more than internal suspicion. Television is probably a significant factor. Night after night, American TV network and syndicated crime and cop dramas, documentaries and hard-boiled programs remind viewers of their vulnerability, shape their attitudes towards their surroundings. "My community is threatened by Detroit television," says Saskatoon police Chief Owen Maguire.

"There's a whole generation of seniors afraid to leave their houses because they think life is like that."

TV may also serve as a video classroom for thugs open to suggestion, and they have been quick to learn. Last week in Prince Albert, Sask., somebody in a car opened fire on a man and his granddaughter as they left their home. Neither was hit. "I don't ride out a copycat incident," said police Staff Sgt. Dave Denison. On Dec. 30, 1992, in the Vancouver suburb of Richmond, three men burst into the home of retired David David, pistol-wielding, subdued and seriously wounded him and his wife.

The dismal chronicle is endless. On March 27, six hoodlums, some of them armed, forced their way into a charity club casino in the Toronto suburb of Scarborough; they pistol-whipped and disarmed a security guard and held the club patrons to be on the floor and surrender their wallets. In Montreal,

restaurant manager Ahmad Daughan was driving home at 4 a.m. one morning last August when a man in the car beside him fired a shot through his passenger side window, hitting him in the finger, and then sped away. In Miramonte, Ontario, police say there were 150 hate incidents in 1992. Last week a couple in neighboring Mississauga were tied up and terrorized in front of their three small children during a home invasion. "If the motivation is such, it doesn't make sense," said sociologist Vincent Stacco of Queen's University in Kingston, Ont. "The ability to terrorize residents in the home somehow seems to be part and parcel of the crime." Statistically, it is just another robbery. But more than that, it is a brand new and a frightening D.

## BODY COUNTS



This chart shows the murder rate per 100,000 people for selected North American cities in 1992, the latest year for which statistics are available.

CANADA		USA	
St. John's	0.0	Seattle	13.0
Ottawa/Hull	1.4	London	12.7
Winnipeg	2.0	Denver	19.3
Toronto	2.3	Philadelphia	20.7
Halifax	2.5	New York City	27.0
Montreal	3.3	Los Angeles	30.0
Vancouver	3.7	Miami	34.2
Edmonton	3.8	Boston	37.0
Calgary	4.8	San Francisco	37.0
Thunder Bay	5.5	Washington	75.2

SOURCE: THE CANADIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS AND FBI. \*RATES BASED ON 1992 POPULATION.

# TRAIL OF TEARS

*The brutal slayings of three young people have touched off outpourings of grief, fear and rage*

## 'It could have been us'

They came to pay their respects to someone they never knew. Following the brutal killing of 23-year-old Georgina Lemos during an armed robbery last week at Just Desserts, a trendy cafe in midtown Toronto, dozens of residents dropped off bouquets of flowers outside the empty restaurant. Many of the flowers bore yellow ribbon declarations "In memory of Georgina" and words such as the one that read: "You're best off where you are, it's a safer world there." Among the spontaneous mourners was David Hennings, a real estate broker who had often brought his wife and two young children to Just Desserts. "It's horrible," said Hennings as he peered in the restaurant's darkened windows. "As a parent, you want your young woman gone out to enjoy a quiet moment and gets blasted away by a tag walking a shotgun. What frightens me most is that it could have been my family to there. It could have been us."

It could have been us. That phrase, more than any other, sprang from the mouths of Torontonians last week as they gripped with the violent death of the young woman known to friends and to her Greek immigrant family as "Nini." The fact that Lemos was fatally shot while toying coffee and munching chocolate along with 30 others primed in an affluent neighborhood known as the Annex came as a rude shock. "This just shows that you don't have to go in the bad part of town to get into trouble," said Carolyn Schwartz, a 25-year-old saleswoman at Patina Books, a store next door to Just Desserts. "It's all a matter of luck."

Luck was clearly not on Lemos's side as she sat in front of a late-night street on April 5. As a videotape recorded by the restaurant's surveillance camera later showed, four black males who appeared to be in their early 20s arrived at the cafe shortly before 11 p.m. They briefly



Photos of the survivors taken from the restaurant's surveillance tapes: a sword-wielding gunman in a gym bag

the scene of the crime before heading about buying guns to defend themselves. Others worried that such actions would only make a bad situation worse. "The backdoor worries me most," said David Currie, who runs a French bistro around the corner and who still considers his neighborhood—and his city—relatively safe. "What am I going to do here as a parent, you know? There while people eat their meat? It doesn't make sense."

By week's end, police had released pictures of the four suspects taken from the surveillance tapes. They had also recovered a wallet stolen from one of the cafe patrons from a North York housing project. A break in the case could not come soon enough for Lemos's grieving relatives who, following a Greek tradition, will bury the slain woman this week in the wedding dress she never got a chance to wear in life. Friends and family spoke proudly of how Lemos, despite holding down two jobs as a hair stylist and a telephone operator, always found time to comfort and cheer anyone going through tough times. And they declared that Toronto, and the country, must learn from her murder. "It's got to stop here," said the victim's brother, Toss. "This has ripped apart this city and no one should be able to forget." While it could have happened to any one, this time it was their beloved Nini—and that has will surely haunt them the rest of their lives. □

looked over the crowd, then left. About 20 minutes later, three of the men returned, one carrying a sword-wielding, double-barreled shotgun in a gym bag. According to police and witnesses, two of the men started to corral customers into the rear of the cafe, demanding their wallets and purses, while the third pulled out his gun. When two male customers refused to hand over their money, they were assaulted and received minor injuries. Then, in what police described as "a deliberate shooting," the gunman lowered his weapon and fired, apparently at random, into the crowd.

Lemos, who was standing in the front line of the huddled patrons, took the full blast, the bullets tearing through her heart and lungs, injuring several others. After the three fled, taking less than \$1,000 in stolen loot, Lemos lay conscious and alert, while customers tried to comfort her. She died three hours later at hospital, while undergoing surgery.

Following the fatal robbery, some people who live and work near the cafe talked loudly about buying guns to defend themselves. Others worried that such actions would only make a bad situation worse. "The backdoor worries me most," said David Currie, who runs a French bistro around the corner and who still considers his neighborhood—and his city—relatively safe. "What am I going to do here as a parent, you know? There while people eat their meat? It doesn't make sense."



## 'Not as protected as we thought'

On the afternoon of the last day of her life, Joan Heinbecker spent six hours in the science library at McMaster University in Hamilton poring over evidence that was a case A and E can extend the lifespan of rats. Returning to her duplex apartment in Bala, Ontario, the 55-year-old mother's mind went to physical education teachers in the bedrooms of roommates Tara Gilbert and excitedly recounted her findings. "Then," recalls Gilbert, "she looked at me and said, 'The seven women a woman before, but today I took my very first one.'"

Remembering that conversation in an interview with Maclean's, Gilbert began to weep quietly, before recounting the events that followed.

At around 6 p.m. on March 26, the two women shared dinner with their two apartment mates. Then, Heinbecker and one of the other women settled in for a night of studying, while Gilbert and the fourth roommate headed out to clubs. At about 11 p.m., as Gilbert returned to the res-



Heinbecker blends mourning (above) with, black and green ribbons



# Life, liberty—and lots of guns

BY BOB LEVIN

**S**hall happen. All the time. You get used to it. If you live in America, and especially in an American city, you breathe in the daily stories of rapes, robberies, murders, suicides and drive-by shootings like so much dirty air. "We read the paper for the morning carnage," my brother says.

His brother is Moslemqueque, N.M., in the hinterlands far from any big-name crime capitals, but he is getting an idea of the sort that his teenage daughter will be driving. Welcome to America, where life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness are impeded by lawyers purchasing their right to bear arms, among other things, and where I happen to have been born and raised. In America, people assume a certain risk. In Canada, where I have lived for the past eight years, people assume that they inhabit some blessed

*In America, people assume a certain risk*

people and people of more other colors. Actually, they are scared, period. Have you ever looked at the door of a New York City apartment? Look after lock after lock—you can get rattled by the time you get your door open. But, being there, you stop noticing such things. One rainy day my first year in New York, I heard shots off-camera, I was still innocent enough to be afraid and looked out to see a cop crouching behind his open car door, firing at two fleeing cars. One got away. The other fell dead; the chaff outside was there for days afterward.

You get used to these things. You barely notice the subway roller coast to you peeling its teeth with a knife, or the horns on your windscreen when you move in Brooklyn. (Gee, it was told that some resourceful beggar once peeped upon with a hydraulic jack.) You get used to facts because you have to because otherwise you would have to move away.

Which some of us ultimately did. Now, when I visit the States, I still love the people and the pace and the quality of life, but I'm struck by the violence. It's a sign of a society worried that basic order is slipping because it is protected by electronic gadgetry. Parents won't let their children play in houses where guns are kept. Then the parents tell Christmas and you learned that, in New York, gun owners were being urged to exchange their weapons for Toys "R Us gift certificates. In Denver, there were death threats against Santa Claus; the department store where Santa comes and the only place kids could visit the jolly old elf was at the police station. Pick a time, a place—say, last winter in Brooklyn: A 75-year-old woman was critically injured by a letter-bomb, a boy taking a short cut to his school was seriously wounded with a semiautomatic weapon. Still happens. All the time. It goes on and on.

So what you want, it is not like that here. Not even close.

Monday, 340 people crowded into St. John's Anglican Church, with another 1,500 spilling into the street. Among those at the service were Elizabeth's parents, Charles and Glyn, and his brother James, 35, from the southern English town of Bromley. In Ottawa the family had made a pilgrimage to the spot where Nicholas died and where every day last week passers-by added new bunches of flowers from friends, they learned that the young engineering doctoral graduate had been on his way home to attend a friend's birthday party across the hall from his apartment on noisy Somerset Street. He had made these plans with Jack one lunch at his office earlier that day. "I told him I would have on his dear friend's 40th birthday," Jack told Mother's last week. "I kept knocking, and didn't hear anything, until a neighbor came up and said that he had been shot."

Incidentally, so one at the scene could provide a semireliable number or identify the assailant. The shots were just as the hours of street activity on the warm spring night, a dozen witnesses being up outside the nightclub thought at first that Elizabeth had merely argued and fallen. Only later did police piece together the tragedy. The white Jeep, long discovered to have been stolen, had been recorded by a video camera as it sped away from one of the three convenience stores hit by a rifle fire. The owner and three customers inside one store were showered with glass. The Jeep then drove along Elgin Street, its occupants apparently searching indignantly for targets.

Only hours after they were told of Nicholas' death, the Birthdays received a letter he had mailed just months before had proudly written that his job as a researcher working with neuroscientists gave him a good life, and he had made new friends. He noted that he had survived his first Canadian winter and had learned how to do and was in a moving house to his son, Charles (Elizabeth said that "Nick achieved more in his 27 years of life through hard work, an inquiring mind and a basic kindness and humanity than most people achieve in a whole lifetime." He also said that the "many and senseless events that took place could have happened anywhere in the world." That it happened in Ottawa is still difficult for many in the city to grasp.

BRAND BERGMAN is Toronto VIKTOR DOWNE is Hamilton and R. KAYE FULTON and GLEN FISHER are Ottawa



Crime victim on the New York subway; the unknown gun on and on

hence of peace and order (if not good government, as if the social safety net, including guarantees against innocent young women getting married) is truly solid.

No such luck. But, in America, the culture is hard of rebelling. I even there it is now as well as the many cases of fear and loathing. Toronto is the safest-looking city I've ever seen in. No other one comes close.

To be Philadelphia, where I grew up in a truly Philadelphia. There, one snowy winter's day, a very young and loving salesman murdered my next-door neighbor. People leave neighborhoods when things like that happen. It is called white flight and it costed the suburbs. People also buy guns, or at least Americans do. They own more than 200 million of them, an average of 75 per owner and at least one in seven of all households.

There is a town in Georgia named Kennesaw that passed a law requiring every household to have a gun. I lived in Georgia once, in Atlanta.



Look behind the scenes at the Victoria Commonwealth Games and you'll see volunteers.

Look behind the volunteers and you'll see Rob, Dave and Dave.



Rob McMurtry

Rob McMurtry, Dave Smith and Dave Hatherly are the heart of the project team that designed the system which will be used by the volunteers during the Commonwealth Games. Rob, Dave and Dave work for IBM but as Lisette Colbert, their Games client says, "Some days you can't tell who's the client and who's from IBM." — Whether you call it "responsiveness," "teamwork," "commitment," or just good service, it's what every customer wants. And today's IBM delivers it. — Lisette Colbert told us "When I think of IBM, the first thing that comes to mind is Rob, Dave and Dave. These guys make it so easy for us" — Let the Games begin.



Lisette Colbert



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# THE LONELY GUY

Jean Charest hits the road to save the Tory party

**T**he private plane takes off from Victoria on route to Courtenay, B.C., and Jean Charest, veteran Tory and national leader of the Progressive Conservative Party, is nervous. First, there was the small of emotion led to the cabin of the Cessna 182 as it soared along the runway. Now this. Choking up through 3,500 feet at 180 knots, the mountains of Vancouver Island and the surrounding Pacific waters a good distance below, the door that stands between him and eternity is not fully closed. Only partly is open. Charest draws his forefinger across his throat, signalling his impending doom. The pilot assures Charest that the door will not fly open against the slipstream and keeps him to reality. Charest is not convinced. The pilot takes his hands from the controls—a safe but shocking move—turns around, and renders the alarmed door firmly shut.

It is a far cry from the Challenger you and I know, the luxury hotel and the phalanx of aides that once used Charest's presence in a number of defunct Tory governments. It is a far cry even from the towel bangles and staff-attended Refinery Leader Preston Manning and Bloc Québécois Leader Lucien Bouchard because their parties won enough seats last October to hold official status in the House of Commons. Instead, it is an eerie day in the fairly late life that Charest has chosen: leaving the Conservative party back from the wilderness state that Canadian voters left it in 3½ months ago when they gave the Tories only two seats in the Commons, one of them Charest's own. It is a day that started below 8 a.m. in Vancouver, took him to Victoria for breakfast, continued for lunch, caught a flight for dinner and finally Calgary for bed. That day last week was the many others as he quest to rebuild his shattered party—a day of small meetings and pleasant surprises, like the 300 people who paid \$25 each for

breakfast in Victoria, a sign that the death of the Tories has been at least somewhat mitigated. "It's not glamorous," Charest says of his new life, remembering a January flight to the northern Ontario community of Kapuskasing, when the plane was not heated, his feet nearly froze and he did media interviews in a hotel room, cradling his feet in his hands while a local Tory solicitor warmed his shoes with a hair dryer.

Charest understands what he calls the "toxic ingredients" of politics as well as he understands that public heroes are basic ingredients of a good story of sorts. His favorite dish when friends are coming over on a Sunday night, for instance, he says, is about getting people to work together so much so it is about wealthy others of state. And with only two seats in the Commons, Charest says it is more useful to be on the road backing up the efforts of defeated Tories than it is trying to fight with Reform and Bloc for media attention in the Commons' daily Question Period. So he has taken on a punishing round of travel that in the past months has taken him from Atlantic to Pacific—and now large places in between. Last week, he was in Toronto and then British Columbia.

At week's end, he was with Michelle, and their three children—Daniel, 12, Fabrice, 6, and Sébastien, 4—drew to Basil to be with him while he attended the annual convention of Alberta's Conservative party.

"Am I the only one crazy enough to do this?" Charest was asked about his round of several consecutive weeks with Michelle's last week. While it was a joke, the remark was also a sign that the decision to take on the task of leading the Conservative party in its darkest hour did not come easily. When it seemed evident after the election that Ken Campbell would quickly step down as leader, Jean and Michelle Charest went to a resort near Tampa Springs in Florida for 30 days of soul-searching and discussion.

At the time—and what Charest says was some bad weeks with his wife's parents—"I've got my best men, as though I needed more humility." He had plenty of advice from colleagues who told him that he should leave politics for a job, perhaps more lucrative, easier. Some of the offers went to answering, he now thoughtfully considers, that he did not do it all for his wife's sake. But with three young children, Michelle had power of veto. "It would not have happened if the bid and no," he said.

When Charest decided in March, 1993, to challenge what then seemed a Campbell juggernaut in the Conservative leadership race, he says he went home at night thinking, "Oh my God, what have I done?" But if he has any doubts now about the decision he made when he became the party's interim leader on Dec. 14, he is keeping them to himself. "If you make a decision and you're committed to it, we'll then, he committed to it," he says. "Don't complain about it, just go ahead and do it." It's an attitude that has brought him to national prominence at just 35, an age when most politicians are just beginning their public careers, as the only potential senior of the party at Macdonald, Borden, Diefenbaker and Mulroney. It is a message that he leaves at every stop with the party faithful—whether it

be a group of business executives over lunch at a corporate dining room in a Vancouver office tower or party activists at an evening social. "Success depends first and foremost on us, not the Liberals, not Reform," he says. His pocket opinion, based on his long, winding over the crowd even though most of them supported Campbell as leader: "I know what hard work is all about and I am not intimidated by it."

Charest's belief in the value of dogged hard work rarely made him prime minister when he had for the leadership brought him within 147 votes of Campbell's before-election campaign, which also had the backing of the party establishment. The man now working to establish himself—eventually their new relationship lacking for Campbell agreed and at times hurt him because some of her support came from people he counted as loyal friends. That defeat did not add any wrinkles to his bushy hair, but it left some on his heart for he talks often about the pain of the loss and it made him a better politician. "Winning and losing are two sides of the coin," he told a party meeting in Campbell River last week. "A politician isn't complete until he has suffered a loss."

The key to rebuilding the party after its staggering defeat, Charest believes, is to make sure the Tories stand once again to be Tories. He turns aside the occasional complaint from party members that he should be spending more time attacking the Liberals. Canadians these days don't really want to hear from the Tories, he says. "They still want to kick our ass and that will last some time," he acknowledges. "We won't be able to eat enough crow in the next year." Picking up a replica or a handily pocket-sized sign, he draws a series of concrete circles with an 'X' in the center and shows it to his audience. The 'X' is the core of party activists. "It's important to understand that the first thing we have to do to rally our troops," he says. "We can't afford to lose our core."

He also represents the 21,000 Canadians who voted Conservative on Oct. 25, "God bless their souls." There are voters who deserted the Tories for Reform or the Bloc, and finally there is the general public. "You can't bypass," he says, meaning there are no shortcuts. What he proposes is a change in the party structure to give more power to the activists and less to the leaders. The most important change would be leaders—starting with himself—elected by all party members, not by convention delegates.

The election lost the party with a staggering debt, its operating deficit last year was \$9.3 million, but the party had a corporate surplus from the previous year of \$23 million. With a campaign vehicle from Elections Canada and other expected income, party officials say the final 1993 deficit will be \$5.5 million. To deal with the debt, the party laid off all but about a dozen of its 30 staff members and closed its once regional offices. Some Tory supporters fear the party should dig in and fight with the Liberals but after Dec. 28th defeat, instead spend its resources on rebuilding. Charest rejects that advice, he says the Liberals were in a difficult situation because it was clear that they would eventually return to power. Persuading Canada-



Charest in Vancouver: A politician isn't complete until he has suffered a loss.

*'Am I the only one crazy enough to do this?'*

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## CANADA

ask that the Tory party is not dead, he says, is not making its job. Charest, this week appointed one of his own allies, businessman Donald Macdonald, as chairman of the PC Canada Fund, the party's fundraising arm. Fund director Gerry Stangor, a Vancouver businessman, said the party's corporate fundraising has been temporarily suspended. "I'm not aggressive to even ask right now," he says. "Right now, everyone is wondering if this is a worthwhile investment."

Charest tells downtown Tories that they hold their destiny in their own hands. He points to Peter Loophood in Alberta and Robert Stedley in Nova Scotia, who became party leaders where the Tories held no provincial seats but went on to lead political dynasties. But Stedley and Loophood did not have to contend with the Reform party, which clearly complicates the task of rebuilding. Previous Manning's attack from the right underpinned the Conservative strategy during the election campaign, and some voters in the party insist that it must shift further right to win back voters who deserted it for Reform. One of those voters belongs to Stan Wilton, a physician at Lady Grey who represented the suburban Vancouver riding of Delta but was down in the Reform surge. Facing Reform camped on Tory territory is a "real problem," Wilton said, particularly in the West. "What Brian Mulroney did wrong was move too much to the centre and the left."

Charest and other Tories are revisiting the temptation to fight Reform by moving slightly right. Most important, they argue, the Conservatives' chief weapon against Reform will be their cultural roots, evoked for the moment by the brutal election verdict of only one seat for Charest and one other for Elsie Wayne, a barely successful bid from New Brunswick. "We are a national party," Charest insists at every turn. "The whole cornerstone of our work is that we are a national party." Reform, he tells the business executives in Vancouver, has failed to establish a national vision since it came to Ottawa—and is not likely to change. A possible referendum on sovereignty in Quebec, in which Charest could play a leading role as an advocate for federalism, would let the party demonstrate its national breadth.

There is no simple mystery why anyone would accept the task of trying to put the party back together. It nearly every day, Tories recognize the scramble Charest is making as they thank him with evident gratitude for taking on a job that few would ever consider. The biggest reason for his pay, says, in the opinion from his family even on the road, he tries to phone Michelle, his teenage sweetheart, two or three times a day. Charest likes to think that he can walk away from the life he has chosen at the decade on his family over become more taxing. But there is, he acknowledges, another explanation. "Maybe," he says, "I'm hooked."

**NORMAN CARLSON** is in Vancouver

# Canada NOTES

## RICH DEFEATED

State Rich, former chief of the troubled Inuit band in the Labrador community of Davis Inlet, said she has no hard feelings against residents who voted her out of a job. Rich was defeated in a vote for chief by Simon Tinkupuk, a 25-year-old Inuit police officer who led an apparent surprise attempt by several Davis Inlet teenagers last year. Ottawa has offered \$50,000 to move the Inuit community to a new coastal settlement of nearby Sargo Bay.

## FISHING CHARGES

Charges were laid against the owner of a boat apprehended in international waters off Newfoundland for fishing banned cod and haddock. Jose Augusto Costa Freitas of Lanham, Ont., faces two counts of allowing the vessel *Fortuna Legion* to fish the depleted stocks. The ship was the first one arrested by federal fisheries officers in international waters off the Grand Banks since the country's belonging to the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization agreed earlier this year to restrict fishing in the area.

## HONOR FOR MULRONEY

An institute named after former prime minister Brian Mulroney is being set up to promote closer academic ties between Canada and Israel. The Canadian Friends of Tel Aviv University said it plans to raise \$1.4 million to endow the Brian Mulroney Institute for Canadian-Israeli Relations at the university. Joe King, an official of the group, said it wants to honor Mulroney because "he always stood up for Israel."

## ALBERTA LIBERAL QUITS

A Liberal backbencher in the Alberta legislature quit his party's caucus to sit as an independent, saying his constituents support the budget-cutting policies of conservative Premier Ralph Klein. Paul Langness, the rookie M.L.A. for Lac La Poudre, said he quit his seat in northeastern Alberta, said he said that he was unhappy with the leadership of provincial Liberal chief Laurence Decore.

## LIFE FOR MURDER

A 17-year-old youth was sentenced to life in prison for first-degree murder in the slaying of his six-year-old neighbor while he was on probation for previous sex offenses. Jason Garschke will be eligible for parole after 10 years. Although a young offender, Garschke was noted to adult court to face the charge. During his trial, Garschke said it was his evil alter ego who raped and killed Dawn Shaw in Courtney, B.C.



**TOUGH QUESTIONS:** Prime Minister Jean Chrétien shakes hands after fielding tough questions from high-school students in suburban Vancouver, including whether he had ever smoked marijuana. One of the 2,000 students asked "Bill Clinton says he did it, Kim Campbell says she did it, did you do it?" Chrétien smiled and replied "I never smoked that (marijuana), but for me, I don't pass judgment on that. I'm not a smoker, that's all."

## Overhauling the UI system

**H**uman Resources Minister Lloyd Axworthy has ordered reports that Canada's unemployment insurance system is headed for a radical redesign that would do away with UI premiums paid by employers. Axworthy said that such proposals are simply ideas being floated by provincial officials. According to the reports, a task force of experts advising the minister on how to overhaul the country's social safety net is considering: re-allocating returns that would involve transferring UI into a fund aimed only at helping workers who are unemployed for short periods; it would sharply reduce UI benefits and be completely financed by higher employer premiums; now a maximum of \$45 a year. The committee previously criticized about dropping employers' premiums, such a re-

worked UI system would include a new tax on employers who do not provide training to their workers.

In Ottawa, Axworthy said the proposals were being presented only by "a couple of provincial bureaucrats." Still, he said he has been concerned for many years that the existing UI system does not provide support for people who have been out of work for long periods with the kind of training they need to find a job. At the same time, Finance Minister Paul Martin said he views employer contributions to UI as a payroll tax that discourages businesses from creating new jobs—and which should be reviewed. Axworthy is expected to outline the recommendations of his sociological task force at a federal-provincial meeting scheduled for April 18.



# A Very Private Lady

*Aline Chrétien shuns publicity, but she has long been one of her husband's most trusted advisers*

BY E. KAYE FULTON

**A**t midnight, Aline Chrétien strolls down the sweeping staircase at 24 Sussex Drive to the darkened living room where, alone with her 14-year-old baby grand piano, she plays Beethoven's *Moonlight Sonata*. In these private moments, she is the great pianist she had dreamed of becoming as a shy young girl in Shawinigan, Que. Back then, in the 1940s, the once at Ecole Steurs Come offered free music lessons to their top student, Aline Chrétien, in exchange for her help correcting homework after school. She had to refuse: the struggling Chrétien family of eight could not afford a piano. That and so much else, has changed in the 36 years since she married Jean Chrétien. After seven years of private music lessons, she practices scales with her 14-year-old grandson, Maxime, and plays traditional Québécois songs at intimate family reunions. And now, on rare nights like these, she finds a private refuge. "It's a dream, to play the piano," she says. "When I go with people, I play things they love. The beautiful things, I play for myself."

If she had her way, Aline Chrétien would be the most private personality to occupy the high profile role of prime minister's partner. Unwilling to step into the political spotlight, she has deliberately limited her domain by closing the Parliament Hill office that her predecessor, Mita Mulroney, opened at taxpayers' expense. Careless with her solitary pursuits, she has deliberately eschewed solo public appearances, declined decisions on any involvement with charities and once twice focused her energies on her family. For the first year, at least, she plans to grant no more than two media interviews—one in French, the other in English (to *Madame!*). Most friends know only snapshots of the former secretary's life, even fewer know details of her final 10 years, before her whirlwind encounter with a future prime minister on a Shawinigan bus. "I'll have to remind Jean, no one would have seen me, ever," she says. "I like people, but I don't like to be out in front."

A kaleidoscope of personalities has occupied the role of prime minister's wife. As the 1980s, Aline as mother as powerful as Bob Lauder: the legendary dispenser of charitable patronage, rare to heretofore self-indulgent as Maurice McLer, a lawyer and author. At 58, Aline says she has no ambition to sleep a separate public identity. She certainly has no wish to exert the publicity of her American counterpart, Hillary Clinton. "I wouldn't dream of it," she says. "I am not elected, for one thing."

In her 1991 best-selling study of prime minister's wives, *More Than A Role*, author Heather Robertson argued that the increasing success of women in active politics has diminished the PM's wife to "a rather pathetic wreckage of nobility." "It's Aline," remembers one of her predecessors, says Robertson, is John Diefenbaker's wife. One, who fashioned her marriage around making her husband a better prime minister. "Aline is like Olus, a strong, self-controlled, supportive wife who is a powerhouse behind the scenes," she says.

Certainly, Aline Chrétien is no quietly subliminal to be regarded as an outdated model of a dutiful political spouse—and too well-mannered to care if anyone thinks differently. An active as she is an observer, she has been a trusted and often crucial adviser during her husband's 26-year climb through the corridors of power. Liberal governments to Parliament's annals, the Prime Minister's Office. "It's a cliché, but it's true," says Jean Chrétien. "Without my wife, I wouldn't be here." Over the years, the couple has forged a steadfast alliance that has witnessed the public weakening of political disappointments and personal pain. Says Aline: "It's like we've been raised together. He knows I am his best friend. And when I say, Jean, you should change this," he listens. Adds longtime Shawinigan friend Berthe Grier: "Jean and Aline are like two fingers on the same hand."

In fact, the Prime Minister makes few major decisions without his wife. Aline was one of only three friends who the then rookie MP needed in 1964 when 17 other close advisers



At home at 24 Sussex Drive, on their honeymoon in 1967 (top right), "He knows I am his best friend."

## PROFILE

sympathetic to quit the federal caucus and run for the Quebec Liberals under then-Premier Jean Lesage. When Quebec's school tax lower to provincial sales tax in 1975, Charles' first budget as finance minister blew his property. Alice finally told 50-Maurice riding supporters, "We will never give in. I won't let him in." It was Alice who convinced Charles to run against John Turner in the 1984 leadership race; it was she who then convinced him to quit politics after Turner's victory. "Don't listen to anybody," she told him. "You owe nothing more." Finally, it took Alice's consent, and her shrewd assessment of his chances, before Charles launched his 1990 bid to lead the Liberals. "This is no last contest," she says. "We are going to do it well."

Behind the polished facade of a successful political train is a shadowed determination rarely revealed in public. On official visits during Christen's long political career, Akse often retreated to hotel rooms with a book to read.

Last December election campaigns solidified Alton's place in the Liberal lexicon. "I love and loved her even further into the public domain," says a friend of the couple and former ally, "but she added an element of simple sophistication, even severity, to an often clumsy stream of glowing barbs and crowded clichés in public across Canada. Advice readers that Christine valued her opinion, and sought it regularly." She had no emotional attachment to others, "but she was a very big deal out of it," says Christine's son, Michael Robinson, a senior Liberal election strategist. "Her antipathy are very big as noted as Christine's or anybody else in it politics." She spoke on and off, briefly in Italian, which she learned from a private tutor in the late 1980s, at a Liberal rally in Florence. More important, say party strategists, her poised presence on any podium softened the Liberal message. "She was a woman who had a power, a singular presence that she achieved a strength and self-awareness independent of any

At all times, even if political opponents could adequately protect his life at St. Saviour's. Both Christians chafe at the constant bludgeoning of police protection, the stringent security and the stifling loss of privacy. While Christian was in custody during the 2006, the NYPD is noted that a safe is installed in the family's Greenbaum home to protect sensitive government documents since her husband rarely brought work home. Also married the wealthy father as a child, prior hiding place for his mother. Even during those three years at Stoneway, the official Opposition leader's home in Rockefeller Park, Alice was free to go where the women when she wanted. Last spring, she spent a week in Italy and wandered with a notebook by himself, around the Getty library in Florence and the Vatican.

Rome: Now, unrecognized as she is in her bevet and sunglasses on her regular early morning walks in the Ottaviano market, Alice is followed by an RCMP escort. "They are nice and they have a job to do," she says. But she adds ruefully "I can never travel by myself. I'm going to start driving again soon, or I'll explode."

ates a Honda dealership in Hall, and their adopted son, 35-year-old Michel, was not mentioned at all. Chretien rarely refers to his family in speeches, although present at most grand occasions, such as their father's official swearing-in at Rideau Hall last November, they avoid the media.

There are exceptions to this rule. For their official Christmas card last year, the Clavettes posed on the porch of their cottage on Lac des Milles just outside Shawville with their four grandchildren, Olivier, Mathieu, Philippe and Jacqueline. André, the offspring of France and André, is the youngest. He is 10 months old and his company, Power Corp. The top of André's photo in the living room is covered with lovely photographs, one of the few displays of private moments in the residence. Over comfortably, she sprinkles her conversation with proud family references. Mathieu plans to take his Grade 5 exams next week with his grandmother at the end of May—in fact, he scored higher marks than she at his Grade 5s, so she often takes care of their grandchildren for the week spent with in the Dominions home in M. with them. "Everyone has their turn,"

Even in their darkest moments, the Christians guard their own. Their son, Michel, a Gwich'in Indian whose couple engaged in an affair in 1992 when Christian was minister of Indian and northern affairs, was convicted of sexual assault in 1993 in Montreal and sentenced to three years in prison. The couple were haunted by their son's problems. When Michel was in his teens, they came home one night to discover that he had locked himself in the basement and refused to come out. "He had been drinking beer for 20 hours, stoned at the back hole in the darkness." Typically, Allen accentuates the positive aspects of her son's experiences. Because of the publicity, Michel loved his birth mother, and now lives with her in Yellowknife while awaiting his appeal. He is a talented artist and one of his paintings, a figure at a native dancing and at the drum, hangs by the entrance to the upstairs nursery room. When Michel was 16, he was sent to Ottawa for occasional visits. Allen chafes her appointments. "I'm just for him at that time, so I have to be there," she says.

Among the smiling brood that spans four generations of Chases and Chases, Alice is regarded as the matriarchal force. "She is the family's glue," says her son, Stephen, a 36-year-old surgeon. Her husband, David, and three adult daughters—Susan, 38, a writer; Deborah, 36, a lawyer; and Emily, 34, a teacher—live with her in the 10,000-sq-ft, 19th-century house. Alice, 68, a younger sister died in 1964 of cancer. At Christmas 2001 of the Chases, including her 82-year-old mother, Thomas, her brothers, Robert and Andrew, and his sisters, Edith and Pauline, joined the family for Christmas at 35 Sussex. On New Year's Eve, the family gathered for a 12-course dinner, a swimming pool with 20 of the Chases' 31 in Alice who orchestrated their get-togethers—but it is also she who ensures that nothing happens with her husband's schedule. "I look a lot on myself, with the kids and the family, for sure," she says. "We love the kids here, I want to be there until they are married, to talk about how life is, to do the things that are important in the role she chose, long before the Chases' crisis of 1935." ■

As she remembers it, the moment that she met Jean Chrétien at the end of that summer in Shawanaga she knew that he was a young man with a good future. He was 18 years old, the smallest person, 168 cent of Mike and Weller Clinton. Everyone in the blue-collar pulp-and-paper town knew the Chrétiens, among them



John and Allen Cavities with daughter Frances and son Mark, obsessed with privacy

Allice Chase and her family, who lived only two blocks from the Christened large larch house by the St. Maurice River. Nine of the Christian children had survived infancy, and these alone—even the runaways Jean, who was sent to a boarding school in Trois-Rivières for strict discipline—were the pride of the community. Most people in town, including Wolfe, worked at Consolidated-Bathurst or at Alcoa. But her own father, who was a laborer there, had the Christian kids were different. The older siblings were university educated professionals, two of them doctors, in large measure the products of the ungrudging ambition of their hard-working parents. Saint-Alain, "their most successful son, St. Maurice."

**struck  
that he  
to help'**

Those letters contain the tale of a blossoming romance—and the lengths the couple was prepared to go to to sustain it. “We met in the last 1970s. They always were very little but I grew up with that as a fact,” says Alton. Inspiring in the memory of Christy’s love life is Alton’s shocked appreciation. “He said, ‘Are you a pretty Christian?’ I said yes, and he invited me to go to his friends at a dinner he had organized. I was just 20. He was my mother and ‘You’re not going to be a dance midget! I know the person you are going with.’ ‘Alone,’ I replied and told him that she also could go, but only as his date. To his disappointment, Jean had already made other plans. But he asked her to go to the movies with him (instead, a week later, when he left the boarding school in Tulsa, Oklahoma, they promised to write to each other. He hitchhiked home once a month. And occasionally, Alton’s work with the Catholic movement took her

'What struck me was that he wanted to help'





North, the former National Security Council aide and Vietnam defector, wants to be a senator

# SEE OLLIE RUN

The gift of Ollie North is the big story so far at the campaigning for next fall's U.S. congressional elections. To his many critics—fellow Republicans as well as the governing Democrats and the mainstream media—it is an affront that a man who admits having led to Congress more wars a man as the Senate. To his many fans, including millions of dissonant in North's controversial life story, it is only right and just that the hero and chief suspect of the Iran crisis after the 1980s should confront his supporters in Congress and try to look out some common sense into government. To Virginia's voters, who North aims to represent by winning the Republican nomination

on June 4 and the Senate election on Nov. 6, it is one parade within a confusing political situation. To insurance Ollie Lawrence North, 50, it is no problem. "Listen," he told *Money* after a recent Republican rally in Richmond, Virginia's capital, "since this campaign began, I have never had a moment of anxiety. This campaign has been gathering momentum from the first day—gathering delegates and gathering supporters."

The cocky candidate claims that he has already won up a winning number of delegate votes for the showdown at the June convention. That claim is challenged by his rival

## ASSIGNMENT

CARL MOELLERS  
IN RICHMOND, VA.

for the nomination, Congressman James C. Miller III, a holding scholar of 51 who is the first dramatic chief of the North, says North is exposing conservative causes. From the outset, Miller's challenge carried the message that a home security system paid for by an army officer involved in his duties—an appeal that North's supporters claim that the party's decision to have been colonel by congressional testimony on which North has been granted immunity from prosecution.

In 1986 and Miller as hedge director from 1985 to 1989. Last week, Miller tried to turn up the heat. He called on North to match him in releasing personal medical and tax records to show who was fitter for Senate service. Briefly, that triggered old controversy over North's psychiatric treatment for depression almost 20 years ago, how that history was engaged from his military record and whether it figured in his security screening for the White House job. But the joke turned against Miller when he allowed that he himself had once consulted a psychiatrist about mood swings that ran in his family. Miller then declined to elaborate, leaving North to guess that "his attempt to smear me has backfired."

North, who accuses Miller of dodging the Vietnam War with student draft deferments, named on Miller's blunder to rub it in. "Jim Miller ought to be ashamed of myself," he said, "that those of us who saw the horrors of Vietnam and then sought counseling to heal the wounds of war are somehow not up to his standard." That statement, his critics noted, fit North's penchant for playing loose with the truth. In fact, when he entered Bethesda Naval Hospital for psychiatric care in December, 1964, it was more than five years after completing a year as a platoon leader in Vietnam. His wife, Betty, had just begun a divorce action and North began in his 1960 autobiography, *Under Fire*, "the prospect of losing her was the height of my depression." He credits the subversion of his marriage to his 11 days in hospital, weeks of counseling and "the amazing grace of God." The trauma a burn-along religious experience to that time. On the campaign trail now, he introduces the mother of their four children as "my best friend."

Indeed, Betty North cut by her husband for most of the six days of televised congressional hearings in July, 1987. His performance made Ollie North a celebrity. He was far from being moved by the party's inquiry into his role in arranging arms sales to Iran and shipping weapons to the contra rebels in Nicaragua, in defiance of U.S. policy and the law. Instead, North laced down the past convictions of senators and congressmen, warning the beleaguered staffers of a marine lieutenant colonel and the former boss of morality to a garage who did his duty under orders. Although a jury convicted him the following year of obstructing Congress, destroying documents and accepting gifts—a home security system paid for by an army officer involved in his duties—an appeal that North's supporters claim that the party's decision to have been colonel by congressional testimony on which North has been granted immunity from prosecution.

Six years later, North remains defiant. On Jan. 18 he threatened to "hold" news" the

damning report of an independent investigation inquiry by counsel Lawrence Walsh, who spent seven years searching for evidence of official wrongdoing. Sen. Richard Walsh? North admitted having assisted the contra during the prohibition on U.S. aid, to having shored up and received from the White House official documents, to having converted leveler's documents for his personal use, to having participated in the creation of false chronologies of the U.S. arms sales, to having led in Congress. North's nose reaction, "It's over," and done, Walsh fired his last shot, and it was a blank. Nine days later, North formally opened his run for a Senate seat.

For others, the issue of North's behavior for others over Virginia's senior senator, Republican John Warner, demonstrates North's moral bankruptcy. For many, it is a "Jim administration" slogan and military losses

## 'Listen, since this campaign began, I have never had a moment of anxiety'

have followed suit. Reagan himself wrote to a Miller supporter that "I'm getting pretty steamed about the statements coming from Oliver North" to the effect that Reagan had authorized him to mislead Congress. Conservative columnist George Will complained North gives the right wing a bad name: "Identifying conservatism with this loose cannon on the picket deck of American politics is a recipe for receding conservatism as the right." And a character in liberal caricature Gary Trudeau's *Zenith* strip depicted the double-barreled senator: "Virginia's Ollie North, having warmly avoided jail, feels ready for the Senate."

Against such criticism, often because of it, North on coast a belated herd of voters who fervently agree with his undeniable, near-silent, his criticism of the "scholars and dealers" who lulled Washington and not his opposition to abortion on demand, stringent gun laws, deficit spending and gays in the military. North, who has a successful business career, is also a successful politician on a big bank account. He held an apartment at the Richmond rally that his campaign has raised "about \$4 million." That does not include money raised previously, including the \$10,000 a crack he collects on the lecture circuit. State donations began to

flow during his 1988 trial, according to Common Cause, an organization that tracks political funding. North has raised more than \$20 million in three months, more than his own political purposes.

Despite North's power, Republican leaders are doubtful about his ability to win the November election in a state where the voters, although spinning extremes, usually elect middle-road candidates—such as Robb and Warner. Robb, a former Virginia governor and another conservative, lost by a scandalous vote, his second the Virginia to Jimmie Kim, in his wife, Lynda (the daughter of former president Lyndon Johnson), has done, for a record that includes defiance with women and a dirty inside campaign against a rival. But Robb, one of 25 Democrats among 50 senators whose districts have will capture this fall, is among the legions of a Republican drive to weaken the Democratic grip on government, including their current hold on 56 of the 100 Senate seats.

Early opinion polls indicate that North, who has been elected by a 53-to-37-per-cent margin in February, has far to go to contribute to a Republican upset. As for the reelection race, on the rainy spring night of the Richmond Republican convention's only to face North and Miller—six days before Miller's gall—the signs were mostly not good for North. Along the broad walk into the school where the meeting was held, throngs of "North for Senate" placards lay wet and crumpled at the foot of their modern statues, leaving the best to withstand Miller signs. Indeed, barely 200 people were scattered in the assembly hall, where Miller's suit signs and chorused chants easily outlasted North's. Apparently unimpressed, North joked about Miller's sign show, gave his policy pitch, stated that the election "is not going to be a referendum on Iran-contra" and spoke of the value of prayer.

The power of prayer is also a recurring theme in North's autobiography. A much better note in his bestselling book, recalling an idyllic boyhood in small-town Missouri, N.Z., tells of his learning to be a popular minor saint, Pentecost of the Mount, whose name he took. North's mother named each child by saying to his father: "Well, Ring, this one is closed." The boy was transferred, and "swore to become a Mountaineer when I grew up." Many years and pages later, North writes that when the freshman congressional panel began squabbling over the Iran-contra scandal, he began to lead over and quoted President's words: "I was a Mountaineer by line. Now, surrounded by lies in his own camp and with the main enemy named beyond, Senate candidate North can only pray that his current case will close as successfully. □

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WORLD



Wendstock in Guatemala City hospital, foreigners are under suspicion

**GUATEMALA**

## Stolen children?

*A child-snatching hysteria sweeps the country*

June Wendstock was calmly taking a photo of a Guatemalan child in the northern village of San Cristóbal Venegas when the angry mob attacked. Cautious that she was there to steal a child, dozens of local residents yanking clubs, net of pipes and machetes savagely beat and stabbed the 51-year-old journalist from Fairbanks, Alaska. Only a team of 40 police men saved her from certain death. Wendstock was an innocent tourist, intent on taking a few pictures. But she is also the most recent victim of a child-snatching hysteria that is sweeping Guatemala. At least three foreigners have been attacked in recent weeks by angry mobs who believe that foreigners, particularly Americans and Canadians, are stealing babies for international adoption or for organ transplants. "The [North] Americans are stealing our babies," Guatemalan City housewife Esperanza Pineda said frankly. "They can't have their own, so they take ours."

Pineda's firm belief has become dangerously prevalent in this troubled Central American country of 10 million people, where children are the only precious things some families can afford. The trouble started on March 5 when the army called in four tanks and 500 soldiers to quell a riot in Santa Lucia Cotzumalguapa, 30 km northwest of Guatemala City, after townspeople threatened to lynch 29-year-old Melissa Larso.

The mob accused her of trafficking in children. Larso, a tourist from New Mexico, was held as prisoner for 15 days and then released for lack of evidence. Two weeks after that incident, a Swiss volcanologist was injured when villagers in another area attacked a group of acrobats whom they accused of stealing children. The Guatemalan government is trying to dispel the hysteria, saying there is no evidence of widespread baby trafficking. Indeed, officials blamed leftist insurgents and disgruntled military leaders for provoking the violence in an effort to undermine stability in this turbulent country that is in the midst of a peace-accord strike and 30-year civil war.

But Guatemalans, and foreign social workers who deal with local children, believe there is some substance to the child-snatching rumors. Babies are disappearing, they say. Whether they are being killed for their organs or being kidnapped for adoption is hard to prove. Evidence and statistics are more elusive than perceptions and rumors. "We know there is illegal trafficking of children," said Bruce Hanna, Latin America director for Covenant House, a child welfare agency based in New York City. "Guatemala, it's easier to buy a baby than to buy a car, in terms of the paperwork involved."

Hanna, whose nonprofit agency runs a shelter for homeless kids in Guatemala City, said there is a growing network of local

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What Matters to Canadians.

lawyers who work for international adoption agencies. But while many babies are legitimately given up by poor Guatemalan parents, others are stolen. Some human-rights groups claim that up to six children a day are kidnapped in Guatemala. Drug-store clerk Jennifer Lopez claims that one of her regular customers recently told her that child, whom she believes was kidnapped. "I'm sure she saw the way she looks on to her [unmarried] baby," said Lopez. "She's scared. We're all scared."

Guatemalan authorities have discovered five interrelated agencies so far this year as largely used as "baby business" where baby babies are taken to be delivered before being sold. One chilling result is that North American couples may be unwittingly adopting stolen children. "They think they're helping these kids" and Harris "What they don't know is that the third parents are indoctrinated because their babies have been stolen."

"There appears to be little evidence that Guatemalan children are being stolen for organ transplants. No reports have surfaced of organ loss besides being discovered. And a recent National Film Board-GIC documentary on international organ trafficking, *The Body Parts Business*, found no concrete proof of the trade in Central America."

But while evidence of organ trafficking is shaky, the fear is real. In fact, so great is the hysteria that the U.S. state department has warned Americans—about 200,000 of whom visited Guatemala last year—to forgo all but essential travel to the country and to avoid contact with Guatemalan children. Canadian officials have not issued a travel advisory, although the city embassy in Guatemala City was temporarily evacuated last week following a bomb threat against the United Nations Children's Fund office in the same building. Embassy officials insist that they believe the threat was related to the child-antichrist hysteria.

Governmental spokesman Guillermo Carreras says that the problem is not as severe as the "sensationalists" indicate. He said there were 369 reports of missing children in 1993, although he conceded that the real number may be higher because not every incident is reported. "What we can't deny in Guatemala is the disappearance of kids," said Carreras. "The question is, 'Why?' Carreras believes that most missing teenagers are picked up by international paedophile and sex rings. He also claims that the vast majority of infants adopted by foreigners are given up willingly by Guatemalan parents. About 2,000 Guate-

malian children were adopted by couples around the world in 1993, Carreras said, mostly in North America and Europe.

Whether the children are stolen or produced freely, babies are becoming a big business. But that the Guatemalan president of the Central American parliament, says that international adoption has become a multi-billion dollar industry, with babies from Central America fetching up to \$25,000 apiece. Lawyers and adoption agencies get the bulk of the money, with the parents getting as little as \$1,200. Diaz introduced a motion in the parliament last month urging Central



Guatemalan children: victims of organ trafficking

American countries to pass "long law" against kidnapping and illegal adoptions. "The recent attacks on five organs may be symptoms of wider, chronic problems in Guatemala. Some observers say that, with acute poverty, political and judicial corruption and widespread street crime, the child-trading scene is merely the latest lightning bolt of a disaster. Others contend that the attacks may have been provoked by the difficulty, in justifying a crackdown on crime and social ills in the country. Indeed, the oil boss's top policy was announced outside his home on April 1, prompting beleaguered President Ramiro de León Cerna to consider a state of emergency. "The fear of kidnapping is real," said Carreras. "But you have to remember all the other problems we are facing. The people are very angry."

BYRON SCAMMAN in Guatemala City

## REVENGE KILLINGS

Middle-east peace prospects suffered a setback as violence erupted through Israel and the occupied West Bank. A suicide bomber from the radical Islamic Hamas group killed seven Israelis and wounded 80 others in the northern Israeli town of Afula. The killing was in retaliation for the February massacre of some 30 Muslims in a Hebron mosque by Jewish settlers. Later, a Palestinian guerrilla sprayed a bus stop with gunfire, killing one Israeli and wounding four others near the southern port of Ashdod. And Israeli soldiers shot and wounded at least 25 rock-throwing Palestinians during a visit to Hebron by U.S. ex-ambassador Jesse Jackson.

## A CANCER VACCINE

Australian doctors treated a patient suffering from melanoma skin cancer with a genetically engineered vaccine, offering an alternative treatment to chemotherapy. Dr. Michael Cribbs said that it would take several months to know whether the vaccine is effective.

## OUT OF CONTROL

Political violence in South Africa's volatile KwaZulu-Natal region has claimed at least 127 lives since the Pretoria government declared a state of emergency there on March 21. Some 12,000 people have been killed in the region in a decade-long turf war between supporters of the African National Congress and those of the Zulu-based Inkatha Freedom Party, which is boycotting election windows scheduled for April 26 to 28.

## A TRUCKERS' STRIKE

The International Brotherhood of Teamsters called a nationwide strike against major trucking companies. Under president Ron Carey said that the men's union is the victim of a conspiracy by truck drivers to lower wages and ruin the union. The strike by 73,000 Teamsters slowed but did not shut down the nation's truck traffic because nonunion trucks account for as much as 50 per cent of shipments weighing less than 10,000 pounds.

## BREAKTHROUGH IN ITALY

After a week of bickering, the neofascist National Alliance and the discredited Northern League, the two main partners of media tycoon Silvio Berlusconi's Forza Italia party in the conservative Freedom Alliance that swept Italian elections, reached a preliminary agreement for a federal Italy with a strong presidency. The move could bolster the formation of Italy's 53rd postwar government.

# World NOTES Sayonara, Mr. Clean

He made his name as the Mr. Clean of Japanese politics, but last week Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa quit amid charges that he, too, had participated in dirty financial deals. His resignation, coming after only eight months in office, was not as self-inflicted as he is the fourth of Japan's post-war prime ministers to step down because of scandal. What made Hosokawa's departure significant was that he, unlike most members of the country's governing establishment, had been consulted to resign over his political corruption and to opt for the economy to save jobs, the environment and trade.

With Hosokawa gone, the prospects for meaningful change now appear dim at best. Despite that, reactions in Japan and elsewhere shrugged off the 55-year-old prime minister's resignation. Tokyo's benchmark Nikkei Stock Index actually rose slightly after an initial dip. Traders noted that

Hosokawa's grip on power had never been as strong as it appeared. He had secured a shaky parliamentary approval for the 1994-1995 budget. On top of that, few experts were confident that his financial, right-party coalition's reform drive would succeed. When it became known earlier this year that he had accepted a \$1.5-billion loan in 1992 from a mob-linked Japanese

Hosokawa's public approval rating, which stood last fall at an impressive 70 per cent, plummeted. "I speculate, and risk for your understanding," he said after his resignation. His resignation last week in the immediate aftermath, analysts speculated that Hosokawa's place could be taken by Deputy Prime Minister Tsutomu Hara, who is also former minister. Far now, however, the Asian country's political scene will remain shrouded in uncertainty—as in countless similar states.



Hosokawa: scandal

## Slaughter in Rwanda

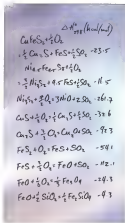
The presidents of Rwanda and neighboring Burundi were killed when a rocket exploded into their plane over the Rwandan capital of Kigali, setting off an array of ethnic violence in the central African country. Journalists, parliamentarians and others were killed in the aftermath of the attack. A regional peace summit in Tanzania where they died. Both men were members of the Hutu tribe, the majority group long at odds with the Tutsi minority in both countries. Rampaging security forces and gangs of youths ransacked Kigali and settled initial scores by murdering, looting and kidnapping Tutsi at random. So fierce was the bloodletting that many believed that Rwanda, still recovering from a three-year civil war, would slide back into anarchy.

Red Cross officials said that tens of thousands of people had been killed. Pierre Le Galloudec, medical co-ordinator of the International Committee of the Red Cross, said corpses were "in the houses, in the streets, everywhere." Maj

Brent Bosley, one of two Canadian officers commanding a 2,500-member UN peacekeeping force in Rwanda, said that the presidential plane "was hit by a rocket and partially destroyed." He was referring to reports that Rwanda's acting prime minister, Agathe Uwilingiyimana, a Tutsi, was abducted by presidential guards and executed. Some of the guards reportedly were dismissed. 16 Belgian peacekeepers, stationed in the town of Goma, were killed. There were still other reports that Rwandan Labor Minister Landis Ndabakunda had been assassinated, along with his Canadian wife, Hélène Pélissier de Monroville, and their two children. The foreign affairs department in Ottawa could not confirm the assassinations.

As the death toll mounted, Canadian officials said a 100-ton transport plane was standing by at an air base in Italy, prepared to evacuate some 200 Canadians in Kigali. France sent 200 paratroopers to the city and began evacuating its 600 soldiers there, while five Belgian military planes left for the area. At the same time, the United States sent 320 paratroopers to Rwanda to assist in a possible evacuation of the approximately 250 American citizens in Rwanda.

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# PEAKS AND VALLEYS

A panic in financial markets subsides but only after interest rates soar to new heights

For traders on Bay Street last week, financial markets may have settled down after two weeks of turmoil. But across the rest of the country, the impact of rapidly rising interest rates and dramatic swings in the value of the Canadian dollar has continued to ripple through the economy. Like thousands of other *farmers* (see producers, 35-year-old Doug Fuller, who owns a 360-acre farm 50 km north of Regina, questioned why Bank of Canada governor Gordon Thiessen has pushed rates up so high in an effort to defend the value of the dollar as international currency markets. For Fuller, a low dollar is a plus—about 80 per cent of his crop is bound for export, and each drop in the dollar reduces the price that foreign buyers have to pay for his grain in their currency. High interest rates, by contrast, increase his costs. Fuller received the mortgage on his farm in March at 7½ per cent—beating the most recent record of rate hikes. But he also has a floating rate loan on a new seedling and cultivating machine, worth more than \$40,000. Fuller said he doesn't know how he risk in the pecking

order to be in a monetary and fiscal policy goes," Fuller said. "I expect not too high."

Indeed, for the past three weeks, Thiessen has been more concerned with soothing the frayed nerves of powerful financiers at home and abroad, than with easing the interest rate burden on farmers, small business owners and home buyers, speaking to an audience of several hundred business executives at Toronto's Royal York Hotel last week. Thiessen said that the Bank's overriding goal is still to "work to preserve the value of the money we use as Canadians then being eroded by inflation." To demonstrate that resolve, the Bank raised its benchmark rate again last week, by 0.57 percentage points to 6.25 per cent, up almost two percentage points since March 22. Thiessen argued that the economy is fundamentally strong and that inflation is low, which means that the filters in financial markets should be temporary. "We've had three bouts of turbulence before and we've gotten through them," Thiessen said. "I hope the handsomeness will show through."

Two days later, some of those handsomeness did, in fact, appear. Statistics Canada reported that the unemployment rate declined by 0.5 percentage points in March to

13.6 per cent, 598. Thiessen declined to speculate about how long the current high interest rates will last. And at week's end, the credit rating agency, Moody's Investors Service Inc. of New York City, put the bonds issued by Canada's foreign currencies on notice for a possible downgrade. Moody's stated that "the stated beneficial effects of its economic upturn on public sector finances will be less robust than usual."

The markets themselves reacted more decisively. Both the dollar and the Toronto Stock Exchange steadied after plunging steadily for almost two weeks. The TSX 300 Composite Index closed at 3327.4 points, down just 3.2 points for the week. The dollar stabilized as well, closing at 72.36 cents, the same level as at the close of trading the previous week. However, at the end of last week, ordinary Canadians were still stuck with high rates for loans and mortgages. And although Thiessen appears to be more approachable and down-to-earth than his predecessor, the severe and austere John Crow, he publicly declared to offer any specific advice to consumers or home buyers on what they should do about the high rates. "Anything I might say might be taken in some sort of policy,"

Thiessen told reporters after his speech. "Even my mother has difficulty with me when I try to explain to her why she is getting less on her savings than she used to."

Thiessen also carefully avoided criticizing Finance Minister Paul Martin. Opposition politicians and equity economists say that international investors are alarmed by both

a year because the industry's revenues by an estimated \$130 million. "As long as the Canadian dollar is weakening, it makes our job easier," said Gerald Plesner, vice-president at Finance International Forest Products Ltd. of Vancouver.

But like many other exporters in the forest industry and other export-dependent sectors, Plesner says that both interest rates and the dollar are unlikely to decline any further.

But although a weak dollar helps exporters, Thiessen has other factors that he has to consider when setting interest rates. William Robson, an economist with the C. D. Howe Institute in Toronto, says that the recent slide in the dollar reflects international investors' concerns about Ottawa and the government's ability to repay their debts. "It's the leading edge of a foreign debt crisis," said Robson. He argues that the Bank of Canada simply cannot set interest rates at an artificially low level. He says that investors are already demanding that Ottawa and the provinces pay a higher rate of interest than other countries because of the growing risk associated with their debt loads. If investors believe that the Bank of Canada may be willing to tolerate higher levels of inflation, it would add another element of risk to the issue—the risk that they would be repaid in devalued dollars. As a result, lenders would demand even higher interest rates.

However, other economists challenge the assertion that government debt and deficits cause high interest rates. In no article to be published in Canadian Business magazine this week, Toronto economist Peter Spinto compares U.S. and Canadian interest rates over the past 25 years and bodes gloom for the future. He found that Canadian rates actually moved closer to U.S. rates during periods when Ottawa's deficit was growing faster than the U.S. federal deficit. Spinto also disputes Thiessen's declaration that lowering the inflation rate will inevitably bring about lower interest rates. To create lower inflation, Crow says, the government must lower interest rates—the gap between interest rates and the inflation rate—by historically high levels. Spinto says that international market evidence shows that "lower inflation is associated with persistently higher real interest rates." In part, Spinto says that is because investors decide that extremely low inflation can be achieved only by

## THE DOLLAR'S WILD RIDE



Ottawa and the government's high debt loads, and that Martin and his provincial counterparts must do more to slash their budget deficits. Thiessen appears to share at least some of these concerns. "Deficits that continually add to the debt so that the rate of the debt to the size of the economy continues to rise are not sustainable over time," Thiessen said. But moreover, Martin is talking back. Statistics Canada reported last week that Ottawa's total debt reached \$356 billion at the end of March, the equivalent of 75 per cent of the nation's gross domestic product. Martin's budget forecasts that this ratio will rise to 75 per cent over the next two years.

But last week Martin rejected calls that he should bring down a new budget with more drastic spending cuts. Speaking to reporters in Montreal, Martin also insisted that his deficit projection of \$30.7 billion for the 1994-1995 fiscal year, which began on April 1, still stands, despite recent jumps in interest rates that will force the government to pay more to borrow money. "There is sufficient room to maneuver in our budget," Martin said.

Outside of Ottawa and the offices of Bay Street brokerage firms, however, many business executives—particularly those who depend on exports—fear the Bank of Canada's sudden rate increases could put a damper on the recovery. William British Columbia's forest industry, which exports more than three-quarters of its production to the United States and Asia, many executives have cheered over the past three years as the dollar has declined steadily from a peak of 88.9 cents (U.S.) in 1981. A near-cent decline in the value of the dollar that lasts for

"What we have now is a bomb," said Plesner. "But my sense is that the pendulum has swung through." Still, even if the Bank of Canada pushes the dollar higher, Plesner says that his industry would be able to cut it if it settled in the 75 to 80 cent (U.S.) range. In the meantime, Plesner, like many exporters, is attempting to minimize the impact of the dollar's short-term fluctuations by dealing in the currency futures market. Basically, that allows him to arrange for deliveries of specialty oil further to foreign customers two months in advance at an exchange rate set now. Plesner said the use of futures is common in transactions with Asian customers. But in recent weeks, the volatility of the dollar has caused him to make similar arrangements with U.S. customers.

In the Alberta patch, the dollar's decline has helped petroleum groups at least some of the revenues that they have lost because of falling world petroleum prices. Oil prices on international markets, which are set in U.S. dollars, have fallen by roughly \$3 a barrel to \$15.57 (U.S.) since last summer. The dollar has fallen by almost six cents over the same period. According to Bob Fock, a vice-president of the Calgary-based Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers, each one-cent decline in the value of the Canadian dollar adds about 25 cents a barrel to the revenues of Canadian producers, as they have received a boost worth roughly \$5 to a barrel.



Thiessen: "Room to maneuver"

For business owners, home buyers and farmers like Doug Fuller, who were just finding their feet after a punishing recession, that prospect is the one they fear. "There is a real world, after all," said Fuller. "It is no economy, but I don't see the fundamental demand for capital that is needed to get the wheels that with both the dollar and financial markets on the rise again at the end of last week, many analysts were saying that Thiessen now has a chance in great Policy—and millions of other Canadians—a little relief."





# Business NOTES



Maclean loan hour will flow freely between provinces if trade talks succeed

## Breaking down the barriers

Optimists that the federal and provincial governments were poised to reach a breakthrough agreement eliminating most barriers to trade within Canada suffered a jolt when in Halifax last week. After meeting with 10 provincial counterparts to discuss a long-awaited domestic trade agreement, led by Industry Minister John Manley and that the deal will be, less comprehensive than initially anticipated because some provincial members are still reluctant to accept measures that restrict provincial protection and protection for companies based in their jurisdiction. Currently, there are roughly 500 inter-provincial trade barriers in place and economists estimate that they cost Canadians about \$6 billion a year.

Despite the failure to conclude a broad agreement, Manley said that the provinces are at least close to eliminating preferential policies in government purchasing and procurement. Fraser's Leinster, Ontario's minister of economic development and trade, said she was pleased that the members rejected arguments from some of the smaller provinces that exceptions be made for certain regional development projects. Still Leinster, "We've got to stop using taxpayers' dollars to prop up and protect from each other." The governments have set a deadline of June 30 to reach

an agreement on monetary—among other things—barriers to international trade sales, government procurement, construction, labor mobility, consumer measures and standards, natural resource processing, communications, transportation and environmental protection.

## Driving recovery

Canada's auto industry got another boost from renewed sales in March, extending this year's modest streak of monthly sales increases. Domestic and foreign-based automakers have reported figures that show that sales of new cars and light trucks were 2.6 percent higher last month than in March, 1993. The industry ended five straight years of declining sales with double-digit increases in January and February. Economists say that rising demand for cars is a sign that consumer confidence, a key element in an economic recovery, is picking strength. General Motors' North American subsidiaries increased their sales as a group by 13.3 percent in March. General Motors Corp., Ford Motor Co. and Chrysler Corp. all reported higher vehicle sales. Meanwhile, foreign-based automakers watched their sales contract as a long-standing trend by dropping 3.3 percent as a group in March.

## NET DEBT

According to Statistics Canada, the combined debt of federal, provincial and territorial governments hit an estimated \$691.2 billion at the end of March. That represents a debt of \$23,965 for every Canadian. The joint debt of these governments is up 11.2 per cent over the fiscal year that ended March 31, 1993. At the end of March, 1993, the debt was only \$118.4 billion—or \$4,399 for every Canadian.

## WORKING IT OUT

Canada's national unemployment rate dropped to 10.6 per cent in March from 11.1 per cent in February, according to Statistics Canada. The domestic economy generated 45,800 new jobs during March, the second straight month that Canadian payrolls have expanded. Over the past two months, the Canadian economy has generated 114,300 new jobs.

## TRIZEC DEAL DISPUTED

Senior debtors holders of debt-ridden Trizec Corp., a Calgary-based real estate developer, severely rejected a financial restructuring plan from Horsham Corp. of Toronto last week. Horsham has offered to inject \$500 million into the company in exchange for a 49-per-cent share of Trizec's equity.

## TRUCKING ON THE BLOCK

One of Canada's largest trucking companies may be up for sale by the \$3-billion McGraw-Hill Inc. The company, New Brunswick-based Day and Ross Inc., has 1,796 vehicles and about 50,000 employees across Canada. It is a loan whether the possible sale is related to the dispute between Horsham and Wallace McCain, the brothers who built the international food conglomerate and are now looking for succession plans.

## CORPORATE REPORT CARDS

Two shareholder advocacy groups claim that many Canadian corporations barely get a passing grade when it comes to accountability to their shareholders. Fairvest Securities and the Pension Investment Association of Canada have developed a system that rates a company's corporate governance record on a scale of one to 100. A company gets points for each item on having a separate chairman and chief executive officer, independent directors on board committees and a shareholders based on one vote per share. To date, of the 215 large corporations that have been assessed, the median rating is 56.

## THE NATION'S BUSINESS



## Canadian magazines, like this one, matter

BY PETER C. NEWMAN

At a time when the Canadian economy seems to be making the most of a bad situation and every day brings news of yet another global spanning communications breakthrough, it may seem slightly quaint to be writing about the future of Canadian magazines. Yet the subject is both urgent and significant.

If the daily decision to read *Time*, the country's most important circulation publisher, back to the Americans is indicative of the Christian government's commitment to Canadian culture, we might as well shut up straight now. It need not be so. The recent published report of the task force on the Canadian magazine industry has come up with some valuable suggestions to solve a problem that dates back to 1943, when *Time* magazine launched its first so-called Canadian edition.

Quite apart from the technical difficulties involved in producing a magazine that serves two different countries, the key question is, why bother trying to deliver magazines at all? Most of the magazines and other media that either on a day-to-day, hour-to-hour basis are now conveyed via television and radio, and the electronic age is spreading new technologies to their detriment. It is almost as if, in the electronic north, do. But what newspapers seldom and TV never achieve as a national presence. Both lack the stability or willingness to strategically outpace even to write a report.

That's where magazines—especially this one—come in, at the risk of sounding self-serving, it's no near-war punning. Periodicals don't even immediately but they can do place events into perspective and can generally lay claim to the value that what they publish answers to a rough work-day kind of inquiry. This newspaper is much less concerned with publishing a weekly mix of events than it is in describing the kind of times those events add up to. And that's truly important in that it does

*If we begin to believe that the U.S. TV most of us watch reflects even a tiny sliver of reality—ours or theirs—we're all in trouble*

thin from a strictly Canadian point of view.

This is essential because the images that become the prevailing word-view—the way we see our country and ourselves—are created mostly by American TV. If we ever began to believe that the tube reflects even a tiny sliver of reality—ours or theirs—we're all in trouble. The very success of popular television is to reduce complexities, homogenize feelings and, in the process, limit reactions. It's only when the electronic screen is in the corner of the imagination is that all that noise on the tube and silence in ponder, with a nod to the first magazine and other Canadian periodicals, what it is that we still share and truly care about.

An editor of this magazine for 11 years and a columnist for 11 years before and 11 years after that, I've always thought of *Maclean's* as an institution that is constantly running for public office, at least in the sense that it's always reaching out, trying to capture a clearer view of the world of the readers' challenges and hopes. The legendary Ralph Allen, editor of the magazine from 1939 until 1960 and one of the first to give *Maclean's* national breadth, once called it a "mirror for Canadians in which to see themselves and a

window through which they can view the world." The formula with words: Nearly 28 million copies of this magazine are distributed annually, reaching more than two million readers weekly.

What has been disturbing, not just for *Maclean's* but the entire magazine industry, was the decision by the Time Warner conglomerate of New York City to launch a so-called splinter Canadian edition of its popular *Sports Illustrated*. In that publishing empire's 70-year-old tradition, that meant inserting a few token pages of editorial content into the American magazine, and selling its space as well before expanding into domestic advertisers. (A four-color page sells for \$6,000, compared with \$26,000 in *Maclean's*.) In Canada, *Sports Illustrated* even underpinned itself in ads in regional editions within the United States cost \$13,000 per page, twice the Canadian rate.)

Then, along with *Reader's Digest*, has always pursued that ancestry approach in this country. Wiley Layco, the leading over-the-hill (and the *Canada Black* of the American century), was the quintessential cultural imperialism—but at least he was honest about it. During the first major inquiry into the state of Canadian magazines, the 1963 O'Leary commission, his book seriously made a great loss about *Time's* local edition being "in all essential respects, a Canadian production." *Time* would have none of it. Until now or Jan. 17, 1993, he bluntly said, "I may be a senior friend with my colleagues, but I do not consider *Time's* Canadian edition."

It isn't—free or not—and neither is *Sports Illustrated*. They are both giant magazines that, along with every other American publication, should be allowed freely into the market for what they are, not what they pretend to be. The problem is that if *Sports Illustrated's* splinter edition succeeds, most of the 50 other foreign, English-language magazines that have significant Canadian circulations could follow suit, and that would wipe out 57 per cent of the current advertising revenue of the Canadian magazine's periodicals group. With a very few exceptions, Canadian magazines would come to exist.

In dealing with this cruel dilemma, task force chairman J. Patrick O'Leary and Roger Towne have recommended that splinter editions be prohibited, but they've argued through the imposition of an increase in worth 80 per cent of the value of the advertising they contain. In typical Canadian fashion, they then advocate their own prescription by calling for an exemption for *Time* and *Reader's Digest*, the splinter editions of most of the damage. But they do clearly state that any preserving the *Maclean's* publishing group by limiting its non-tax status to its current tax status is not an option. The magazine plan to expand to an eventual 50 issues, if the government adopted the last, last a recommendation, adjusting the tax status of the editions would be better to the new sense data.

Great magazines are woven into a people's drama and memories. Let's make sure we don't lose out of ours.



JUST BECAUSE YOU  
LEARNED THE HARD WAY  
DOESN'T MEAN YOUR  
KID HAS TO.



You had to walk through three feet of snow just to get to school. They got there on Rollerblades skates. You had an AM radio. They have boom boxes. And now there's this thing called education. High technology that makes learning involving, fun and exciting. What a concept.

Introducing the Presario Multimedia PCs from Compaq. Powerful computers equipped with CD-ROM

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# THE END OF THE LINE

*Faced with new market pressures, Canada's two national railways are reconfiguring the 'national dream'*

BY TOM FENNELL

**W**hen Lord Strathcona drove the final spike into the CP Red line at Crispeville, B.C., in the Eagle Pass near Kamloops on Nov. 7, 1905, Canada was finally welded together with a single ribbon of steel. After years of heated debate and bouts of near bankruptcy, the new nation, led by Sir John A. Macdonald, had finally overcome the obstacles of its own geography and political fragmentation to construct an east-west link binding it together economically and culturally. But 90 years later, the "national dream" is being recast in the Montreal

ry rail hub. As they do, servicing the resource corners of Canada becomes less feasible for the railways. "In the old days, freight was kept in Canada as long as possible," said John Hendrix, director of the Transport Institute at the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg. "Now, there are increasing competitive pressures to export the goods earlier." But as the railways move quickly towards a newly configured future, Edward Abbott, executive secretary of the Ottawa-based Canadian Railway Labor Association, is calling upon Ottawa to hold a national inquiry into the future of rail transport. "If something has to be done," said Abbott, "it should not be left to the whims of the railways."

The tough measures that he should see based upon much more than a whim. Executives from CP and CN insist that only by reconfiguring the two railways from Winnipeg to Halifax will they be able to reverse the staggering \$3 billion in losses that they have incurred on their operations in Eastern Canada since 1980 (page 32). And without such drastic cuts, William Shotton, chairman and chief executive officer of CP Ltd., the parent company of CP Rail, says that Canada's national railways would probably not survive at all. Furthermore, the railways plan has the full support of Transport Minister Doug Young, who told Maclean's that the era of a rail line running through almost every town in Canada is over. Said Young: "The 21st century approach to Canadian identity has more to do with maintaining tradition than keeping a railroad running through everyone's backyard."

The push to merge, sell off or abandon track will not end in Winnipeg. Under the terms of the Uruguay Round of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, subsidies that the federal government now pays to some grain and oil-exporting cultural commodities from the prairies will slowly be phased out, Young said. As those subsidies—which will drop by \$180 million to \$500 million in 1995—disappear, Young said that the railways will also have to change the way they operate in Western Canada, but even if the subsidies remain, he added that Canadian taxpayers, who are already shouldering a \$500-million federal debt, are no longer willing to underwrite freight subsidies, or for that matter, Via Rail Canada Inc.'s money-losing passenger service. Said Young: "The Canadian taxpayer is taking the load, and clear that they are sick and tired of picking up the tab."

In fact, draft legislation that died with the previous Tory government would have allowed the railways to abandon thousands of kilometers of track in Western Canada in 1995. And Maclean's has learned that a subsequent report proposed by the Grains Transportation Agency in Winnipeg, which also endorses rapid abandonment,



**Strathcona pounding the last spike in the CPR line, knitting the country together with a single steel ribbon**

head offices of CN North America and CP Rail Systems. Under a proposal that will be sent to Ottawa this summer, CN and CP plan to reconfigure their operations between Winnipeg and Halifax and to sell off or abandon thousands of kilometers of rail line. Once the two railways merge in the east, analysts say that they will probably repeat the process in Western Canada. In the end, hundreds of communities will lose their vital links to the national railway network. "It means the eventual end of the railway," said Theo Stel, national vice-president of the Canadian Brotherhood of Rail Transport and General Workers. "It will be a disaster."

The railways insist that such a major overhaul is imperative for their survival in the new North American economy, which is configured as a north-south axis. CN and CP have already made massive investments that will allow the railways to speed freight from Western Canada, Ontario and Quebec to Chicago—the continent's prime

COURTESY OF CN RAIL

## SPECIAL REPORT: SHIFTING TRACKS

is now on Young's desk. Still Larry Jarvis, president of the decade-based Saskatchewan Wheat Pool, the largest agricultural commodity exporter in Canada. "We could see one rail way in the future."

The prospect of losing their railways is a devastating thought for many small-town mayors and their constituents. For decades, the town of Capreol, just north of Sarnia, Ont., has been a critical railway junction where freight trains bound for southern Ontario and

West ports and times are far lower. And in the Canadian economy continues to shift to a north-south axis, the railways will no longer have an incentive to keep their lines from Managong through northern Ontario operating at all (page 54). Said Stel. "We see all these lines in northern Ontario disappearing."

Vis Rail employees are all too aware of the threat posed by massive cuts in service. The town government, citing lack of ridership, cut Vis routes in half in 1990. And Young predicts

panies operate on small portions of track that look up with the national system. Because their labor and operating costs are lower, they can make a profit where CP and CN cannot. Through that process, communities would also maintain their critical links to the railway. "Short lines are part of the answer," said Stel. "The United States has successfully built a short-line network."

Vis Corp., short-line railways and massive rail abandonment partially were not what Lord Strathcona envisioned when he drove to the last spike to the CPR. From that day said Jan. 30, 1905, when CN, one of Canada's first Crown corporations, was created, CP ruled Canada's transcontinental route. For this part, CN, known as the "people's railway," was launched to take over a number of bankrupt railways, including the Grand Trunk Railway of Canada, which linked Montreal to Chicago and is still a main CN artery today.

Now, with the proposed merger, the railways are on the verge of another historic transition. At this point, it is still unclear how the ownership and profits of a merged railway would be shared. CN is to be the larger of the two companies in the east, with revenues of \$1.1 billion in 1993 on its eastern operations, compared with CP's \$800 million. As well, CN has more than \$200 million over the past five years upgrading its lines to accommodate cars carrying double stacked containers, and is building a tunnel under the St. Clair River between Sarnia, Ont. and Port Huron, Mich. When it opens in 1995, the \$200-million tunnel will allow CN to move the larger cars in Chicago without interruption. Said CN president and chief executive officer Paul Teller. "The fact is that our business in the east is better and we are significantly bigger."

While any agreement would have to reflect CP's larger position, Stel said that such a merger is essential if the two railways hope to escape the type of financial crisis currently plaguing the two national air carriers. For years, both Air Canada and Canadian Airlines International Ltd. have been locked in a competitive struggle for survival and both have suffered financially as a result. But Stel believes that the railways can avoid similar problems if they agree to merge in the past. Said Stel. "We can make a viable national railroad without government funding."

The pressure to merge the two railways has also been helped by pressure competition from the trucking industry. U.S. railways, plagued by overcapacity, high rates and labor costs. As a result, Stel said Teller has been forced to

streamline their railways from Canadian operations into aggressive North American firms. They have had little choice. William Waters, associate professor of transportation at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, says that as the Canadian and U.S. economies integrate under the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), transportation flows are rapidly shifting to a north-south axis. The railways are not leading that, said Waters. "They're being dragged along by economic forces."

The railways' continental ambitions are already reflected in new joint and corporate strategies. In 1990, CP Rail became CP Rail Systems and, more recently, it incorporated the US flag into its promotional logo. A year later, CN formally changed its name to CN North America. To outpace in the U.S. market, CP acquired the Soo Line in the American midwest in 1990, giving it access to a quarter of 66 million people within a 650 km radius of Chicago. In 1991, CP paid \$300 million for the bankrupt Detroit & Hudson Railway, linking its Canadian operations to major ports and markets in New York City, Philadelphia and Washington. Over the same period, CN, which already had an extensive U.S. rail network, entered into a number of agreements with US rail and trucking firms to give it rapid access to virtually every major American city and to Mexico. "We are North American companies," said Teller. "If we had our own playing field, we could compete successfully with U.S. railroads."

## TRACKING THE RAILWAYS



Teller: labor reform

Stelios: essential cuts

	CN	CP
Revenues (1992)	\$3.5 billion	\$3.2 billion
Losses (1992)	\$893.7 million	\$267.2 million
Employees	28,000	24,000
Track (route km.)	32,000 km	31,000 km

To level that playing field, Stelios and Teller both told *Maclean's* that they want the federal government to survey the complicated mix of boards and tribunals that currently regulate Canadian railways. In their place, they propose that Canada should adopt the more streamlined U.S. regulatory system, which allows American railways to enter and abandon markets with greater ease. In Canada, railways are forced to maintain money-losing routes, pending government approval for exits—and that can often take years. Young supports that call for a streamlined U.S. "We're going to beat our way out of the

With century 1 road the transportation system in Canada to work."

How the new liberal government contends with the transformation of Canada's railways will also reveal the extent of its commitment to the reorganization of Canada into the North American economy under NAFTA and the 1989 Free Trade Agreement. So far, the railways have been given a green light to proceed with their plans. Teller, who must have the approval of the federal cabinet before he can merge CN's eastern operations with CP, and that he has had a number of meetings with Young and was told to continue his negotiations. Said Teller, "Young has told us so many times that we should do what we think is in the commercial interest of the corporation to enter to balance the balance sheet."

In the railways' push to balance their books, Young said that CN and CP may have no choice but to drastically cut both back and people. He said that if the railways are going to compete against their U.S. counterparts, they will have to build a more streamlined national rail service—even if that means only one railway company. Notions for the remainder of railroading, which Young calls the "Pierce Boston" model, simply will not be part of any future equation. "There is no alternative to an efficient railway system from coast to coast," said Young. "But it's going to require some pretty dramatic changes in get there."

The pressure to make such changes to Canada's railway network has been building since 1980 when Washington enacted the Staggers Act. The act, which deregulated U.S. railways, drastically reduced the cost of operating railways in the United States by allowing them to abandon unprofitable and negotiate their own freight rates. Since then, it has become cheaper to move goods (and for Canada, an American railway, Barry Goss, a University of Ottawa instructor and co-president of the Ottawa-based consumer group Transport 2000, said that most of the freight being shipped to Central Canada from Asia now comes from America at Seattle. From there, it is moved by rail to Chicago and then north to Canada. In the process, both of Canada's railways have been reduced to critical revenues that they need to maintain their vast networks. "Traffic is being uphauled off into the United States," said Goss. "As a result, many lines in Canada are now simply shut down for their former users."

Canada's railways have also been hurt by extremely mild rail taxes that are higher than those paid by their U.S. competitors. In theory, the provinces use the proceeds from fuel taxes to build and maintain their highway systems. But the railways argue that because they maintain their own roads they should



Colasimone (center), Mazurka (right): the Capreol Save Our Rail Committee is lobbying Ottawa to stop the rail merger before it affects their town

Eastern Canada were assembled. Two years ago, 1,600 people worked out of Capreol for CN, but that figure is down to 700 and dropping rapidly. Now, CP may abandon or sell its line through Capreol altogether. That troubles Mayor Frank Mazurka, who has seen the population of his community shrink from 4,600 people to 3,800 in the past five years. "We've spent billions of dollars building the railway, and now they want to dismantle it," said Mazurka. "But it's not just Capreol, it's Canada they are dismantling."

In fact, the railways could dismantle the national railway link altogether. Both companies are already moving an increasing amount of off-hoof freight south of Lake Superior through the northern United States to Chicago. In fact, a former Star reporter who is now a transportation consultant based in Thunder Bay, Ont., and that among Canadian freight through the United States is cheaper because

that route costs are much lower because the federal government is subsidizing Via's annual subsidy to \$250 million in fiscal 1996 from \$350 million in its 1993 fiscal year. A lot of that, Young said that Via will have to operate with out government subsidies. "We don't see that," said Mazurka. "We don't see that going to get together for them."

Last November, Via announced that it was already preparing for a better future by cutting 250 jobs by the end of this month. The cuts will save the railway \$15 million over the next 12 months, and Terry Hogg, president and chief executive officer, believes that Via must make even deeper cuts if it is to survive. Said Hogg. "Our success in that area will be crucial to Via's long-term health."

As the major freight railways merge, however, another form of railroading known as shortlining is emerging (page 55). The rail

## FORGING A NATION



Stelios and Teller: lobbying to board the train at St. John's, B.C., on July 24, 1990, laying track in the Fraser Valley left a new nation followed the railway west

## SPECIAL REPORT: SHIFTING TRACKS

be exempt from paying them. In some cases, Grew said that a single railway bridge in a cross-country run carry a property tax bill of more than \$100,000. And in 1992, CN and CP jointly paid \$255 million more in property and fuel taxes in Canada than they would have paid if they were operating in the United States. "The railways are helping to pay for the deficit, highways and airports," said Grew. "But they are getting damn little back themselves."

The railways are also trying to bring their labor costs into line with their U.S. counterpart. CN and CP have reduced their work forces by more than 8,000 people over the

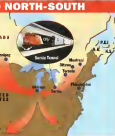
## MOVING TO NORTH-SOUTH

• **GM and CP have a total of 7,800 employees in the United States: CP has 3,000 and GM has 2,800.**

• CP goes 10,400 miles off track in the United States and CN goes 2,158.

• The Survia Tunnel, linking Detroit and Survia, is slated to open in July, 1985, to provide more efficient access to the U.S. market for IBM.

• The tunnel, 1,818 meters long, will cost \$200 million to construct.



all 18 unions, and documents more workers will go where the railways merge in the east. Furthermore, Triller said that he wants a different kind of employee to emerge from the first round of labor talks now under way in Montreal. Canadian railway workers are currently represented by more than a dozen unions that prevent workers from working outside narrow job classifications. Under existing contracts, a diesel mechanic, for example, is not allowed to change a locomotive's headlight. By contrast, Triller said, union decertification in the United States, American railway workers who are also largely unionized, have become more flexible. "We don't want to be a collection of trade barriers on the shop" said Triller. "We think that about 80 per cent of the work could be done by a highly skilled craftsman employee."

Productivity, the railway unions are fighting Telford's proposals and they want the federal government to act as the referee. Canadian Brotherhood vice-president Stal said that CN and CP are allowed to unilaterally union contracts and charge in the east it will devastate the industry. "We're talking about thousands of jobs disappearing," said Stal. "It means the eventual end of CN railway."

Individuals are also reluctant to try to stop

the mayor, John Colebourne, a CN purchaser, who heads the Capital Save Our Rail Committee, said that in an attempt to keep the trains running through the town, his group is lobbying the provincial government to lower diesel and property taxes. If the government does not do something, he said, Caprol is doomed. "We already know that the CN line through Caprol will probably go under the nearest," said Colebourne. "It's pretty scary."

As CN and CP continue their negotiations, the push to cut or short-line track in Eastern Canada is already well under way. In 2001, the railways carried 90 per cent of their freight

**NORTH-SOUTH**

Beijing-Tianjin-Jing-Jin-Ji

Shenyang-Harbin

traffic on only 40 per cent of their lines. The cost of maintaining surplus track has been debilitating. In fact, in 1992, CN and CP were among the largest railways in North America, but in terms of revenue generated on a per-mile-traffic basis, they ranked among the worst on the continent. Norman Bonsor, a transportation economist at Lakehead University in Thunder Bay who recently completed a major analysis of both railways, said that CN and CP have no choice but to cut track. "Canadian railroads are in an enormous mess," said Bonsor. "In order to survive, they have to ruthlessly abandon a lot of track."

In 1995, in one of the largest cutbacks in date, the National Transportation Agency gave CP permission to abandon 550 km of line running from Sharnbrook, Que., to Saint John, N.B. And last November, the agency gave the railways permission to consolidate their operations on 430 km of track between North Bay, Ont., and Ottawa. Under the proposal, CP will abandon most of its line and both railways will run on what is now CN track. And they will consolidate their maintenance crews, operating staffs and southern yards.

Taking the politically risky step of abandoning their main bases through northern Deyar could also save the millions of

dollars. Certainly, economic forces are pulling the railway in that direction. In 1991 CS and the Burlington Northern Railway at Chicago signed an agreement linking Western Canada to Chicago on Burlington's line running south from Winnipeg. Since the deal was signed, new freight traffic moving on the line, including potatoes, lumber and coal has more than doubled.

located in the volume of traffic from Western Canada to Chicago increases. The economic viability of the CN and CP main lines in northern Ontario decreases. Conversely, if Angus, who has been hired by the Ontario government to assess public opinion about the merger along the northern routes, says that the "flow of traffic west from the St. Lawrence and Muskoka regions of Ontario" will be added that would divert traffic from the eastern considerations, so much traffic will be flowing east and west through the Samia's tunnel and Chicago that the Samia will abandon their northern lines altogether. And to add insult to injury, Angus says that the head of fire of the merged company will likely be in Chicago. "CN has already started to lay off people all over the world," says Angus. "At least part of the fault is because of the merger."

In March, in an attempt to stop the rush to abandon loans across Canada, Transperco 2000 called for a moratorium on further rail cuts until Cx and Cx have presented the government with a detailed plan for how they intend to merge their operations. While the government hopes that short-term and regional railways will eventually replace Cx and Cx operations in some parts of the country, that prospect does little to mollify the railers. "We're not going to let the railers go," says a senior Thunder Bay. The deputy mayor of Saint John, Shirley McWaters, said that the loss of railway service would stave the city's future of potential shoppers. Scott McHenry "We have to have a railway or we're serious for the future of the city," he says. The city manager of the municipality near Thunder Bay Economic Development Corp., noted that unless the questions of loans and labor costs are addressed, the railways will be pressured to maintain their services in the city. And that's what underpins Transperco's position: a railway, not a city, is the key to Chabousson. "There is no question that both loans and its competitive disadvantage."

Rail cutbacks would also hurt poorly resource industries in remote parts of Eastern Canada. Angus, who represents a number of corporate clients on the Thunder Bay area, said that lumber and pulp and paper companies need the railway to haul logs and wood chips hundreds of kilometres to their mills in Thunder Bay. He predicted that many mills will close if the railways disappear. Said Angus, "If the communities go out of business, the federal government is going to have to deal with ghost towns." And with the spectre of St. John's, Macdonnell's dream is well lit.

**SPECIAL REPORT: SHIFTING TRACKS**

## SMALL IS BEAUTIFUL

*Short-line railways are expanding as the major railways retreat*

acoustic engineer. But Joffile has a soft spot for the gritty diesel engine throb-bing behind him. "That one was built in 1960," he says, as the train rumbles across a muddy farm field in south-western Ontario. "But it still does the job." Like most en-gineers, Joffile, 38, who works for the two Gothenburg-based railway companies, says his local status is: he waves hello to children along the line and to drivers waiting patiently at cross-ings. But while Joffile, dressed in blue coveralls and a red checkered shirt, may resemble his colleagues in the engineering industry across the country, he is ac-tually at the forefront of a new form of railroading called shunting. As the two national railways cut back, shunters are buying chunks of marginally profit-able mid-line and are reas-suring to form a healthy profit where CN North and CP Canada have lost it. In fact, business has been so strong that CSOR—based 300 km northwest of London, Ont.—in Gothenburg—recently took delivery of a fourth locomotive. "This is what railroading is all about," says Joffile, laughing his mule into the

Since 1970, when Washington deregulated railroads and thousands of locomotives of trade were either sold off or abandoned, short-hauling has become noted of the border. More than 500 short-haulers are now hauling freight from customers along their limited routes. Some use the major rail systems. Now, as US and Canadian governments negotiate in Eastern Canada and divert marginally profitable lines, the opportunities to create such niche-rail networks are expected to expand in Canada as well. If the U.S. experience is duplicated, loss of freight customers and remote industries across Canada could end up weakening their crucial links to the national rail system through such shippers. Said Paul Teller, US vice president of Canadian National, "The advantage of short-haul is that we can let local companies and shippers that are not going to lose their track."

The first of Casselle's eight modern short-



Is this at the controls, old-time advertising (left) short-liners are making profits where others failed?

so paid \$20 million for 400 km of CN line running from Trans in central Nova Scotia to Sydney, and in October 1983, it launched the Cape Breton & Central Nova Scotia railway on that route.

CI is currently trying to sell five pieces of track in Ontario to shortline operators and CI is also looking for a short-liner to take over 850 km of track running from Sarnia through Que. to Saint John, N.B. Given the vast distances involved, most regional railways may also emerge as CI and CP pull back. CI organizations are currently trying to assist a group of employees in carving a regional operation out of CN's southern rail network in Quebec.

According to KallText founder and president Bruce Fleish, shortlining has brought railroading full circle to the turn of century when forests of small, independent subways flourished in Canada. In fact, the Goderich area was originally served by the Goderich and Southby Railway, founded in 1853. "The big railways have gotten so big that they have lost focus as the little shippers," says Fleish. "We're getting back to focusing on the

the railings was created in 1996 when the Central Western Railway, based in Seattle, Ala., was launched on 196 km of abandoned CP track. In April, 1992, interest in short-line in Canada increased sharply when Rail-Trix Inc. of San Antonio, Tex., a fast-growing U.S. shortliner, paid \$4 million for 112 km of line that CPXZ now operates. Rail-Trix, which operates 23 short-line railways in the U.S., ac-

## SPECIAL REPORT: SHIFTING TRACKS

smaller communities and smaller shippers."

That realignment has already improved rail service to Goderich and the surrounding communities. When USRA general manager Arthur Parker arrived at the central-rail cross station in 1992, having left an administrative job with CN, much of the building was boarded up. Today, the station is completely opened, with eight employees covering the baggage and baggage of GDSR's four grain and six locomotives. "The station has become so busy," says Parker. "But people actually phone

for Mark Westerhoff, general manager of the Cape Breton & Central Nova Scotia Rail way, said that his railway is now employing 30 people on the same line that CN employed 150 workers to operate. As a result, Westerhoff said that the railway is able to make money hauling freight on which the major railways would have taken a loss. He added that the short line is easy beginning to make money hauling pulp and lumber—commodities that CN had all but given up on moving.

The shortliners also have another advantage

over the question of inherited contracts or so-called successor rights. Toller met with Ontario Premier Bob Rae in January to discuss the issue, but says he was unable to resolve the expense. For his part, the pro-rail government maintains that under Bill C-40, shortliners are entitled to the Ontario Labor Board to alter existing contracts. But an official with the Ontario Ministry of Energy said that the government has no plans to totally exempt shortliners from C-40 in the future. And in the end, that may force CN to abandon a number of lines in Ontario. "It's a sad situation in Ontario because it is forcing us to file for abandonment," said Toller.

"Successor rights are a major impediment to the rehabilitation of the network in Ontario."

Shortliners trying to buy abandoned lines in Canada also face a lengthy approval process, often including an environmental assessment. In the United States, by comparison, the sale of a railway can be completed in roughly 30 days. According to Flehr, it took 14 months to finalize his purchase of the GDSR line. However, he added that when he met with Transport and Employment officials in Ottawa last month, they seemed more aware of the importance of shortlining and of simplifying the acquisition process. But Flehr also said that Bill C-40 notwithstanding, the government of Ontario has yet to develop a policy on shortlining that acknowledges the important role that the small railways could play in the province. "Some time, Ontario is going to have to do something," said Flehr, "because there will be jobs of lines going over to shortline railways."

Railway unions, however, remain strongly opposed to the proliferation of shortliners. Theo Seel, vice-president of the Canadian Brotherhood of Railway Transport and General Workers, said that CN and CP are deliberately trying to create short lines because they want to break the railway unions. He predicts that eventually the government will be forced to bid out the small railways because they will prove to be uneconomical. "Once the railways reduce the workers' standard of living," said Seel, "the railways will buy them back again."

Seel also questioned whether the shortliners would be able to serve remote parts of the country. And he said that he doubted if shortliners could make enough money to survive as CN's more remote routes. "Eventually when these little railways cannot survive, a bigger network will be required," said Seel. "We need the CN to stay in business. But with thousands of kilometers of track closing open, the shortliners appear determined to succeed where the big railways failed."

TOM PENNELL is in Ottawa

## Back to the future: short lines have brought railroading full circle from the turn of the century



Shunting a train into the Goderich station: following the U.S. example to help smaller communities maintain their links to the national railway system

thinking that there is passenger service."

In fact, the railway has generated so much new business that the town's part-time grain elevators on Lake Huron had to be expanded to accommodate the increased traffic. The number of freight cars handled by the railway has jumped from 500 to 1,000 over the past 10 months.

In addition to increasing rail traffic, GDSR has been able to make a profit by operating a lower-cost railway. Unlike the crowded on-track rail companies, where tracks are rigidly defined, short lines require that everyone from the office supervisor to train crew must be able to operate a locomotive or change a railway tie. Most of GDSR's workers—called "transportation specialists"—earn roughly \$24 an hour plus overtime plus a share of GDSR's earnings through a profit-sharing program. While a union negotiator with CP would earn as much as \$70,000 annually, Seel's former wife CP says that he will likely make more than \$50,000 this year with overtime pay.

Shortliners, who are non-union, also employ the fewer workers to cover the same ground as the major national railway opens

up. Their employees appear to have worked for a smaller railway. Out of affection for their aging locomotives, GDSR's crew named them Thana, Paula and Patrick—all characters from Shakespeare, in a reference to the nearby Stratford Festival. As well, all GDSR employees have been given a business card and are encouraged to drum up sales from potential shippers. "We may not have the newest equipment," said Parker. "But we know how to run a railway."

Despite his success at Goderich, however, Flehr says that his subsequent attempts to purchase more track in Ontario have been thwarted by new labor legislation in Ontario. In 1992, the Ontario legislature passed Bill C-40, which requires companies buying an existing line to honor union contracts signed prior to the purchase. But Flehr, who acquired GDSR prior to the passage of C-40, feels it is morally responsible for most shortline operators to earn a profit if they are required to match the wages and benefits paid by CN and CP.

Last year, CN tried to sell the different sections of track in Ontario to shortliners, but the firms bidding on the line ultimately with-

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# A question of guilt

A sensational murder case could be reopened

There is no mystery at all about how Jeanette Kelly died. Her life ended when she struck the ground at the foot of Toronto's peak Police Pier condominium complex on the first balmy Sunday of spring 1981, the impact badly crushing her upper spine. What remains shrouded in speculation is how the atone over police reservations agent began her fatal fall from a balcony 17 floors up. Nearly two years afterward, a close friend accused the attorney Thomas Tiber told police that she had watched Kelly's husband throw his wife to her death. Her account, repeated at Patrick Kelly's 1984 five-to-five murder trial in Toronto, sent the former RCMP officer to prison for life—even as he insisted that his wife's fall was accidental. But now Kelly's claim of innocence is attracting new attention. And the reason is fresh disclosures from a startling source: Down Tiber. Says Tiber today: "I did not see Patrick Kelly drop his wife off their balcony. That was a lie."

Tiber still says that she provoked a violent quarrel between the couple. But bolstered by her partial recollection, Kelly's lawyers are seeking a new trial for their client. If they are successful, the result would require one of Canada's most spectacular criminal cases. Prosecutions at Kelly's first trial told the court that the former undercover drug agent was living a life of conspicuous luxury and marital infidelity at the time of his wife's death, supporting himself by smuggling cash for shadowy South American clients. A second trial would be certain to resurrect doubts about Kelly's version of events, even as it revealed new holes in the prosecution's case. Renewed scrutiny may also shed a harsh light on the police tactics that Tiber now claims induced after 20 hours of interrogation to provide his damning testimony. At the same time, Tiber's insistence that she did not yell the truth in 1984 could open her to criminal



Kelly in prison: "I'm looking forward to getting this over with."

charges, a risk that she says she accepts if it will help reverse what she calls a "miscarriage of justice." In a signed affidavit recorded last month and obtained by Maclean's, Tiber declared: "The possible legal consequences are not as important to my own peace of mind."

For Patrick Kelly, the stakes are higher still. He hopes for eventual freedom after 11 years of imprisonment made even more difficult by his former occupation. Despite official assurances that the former Toronto-based undercover investigator would not be confined with the violent Ontario and Quebec felons that he once helped to catch, Kelly was constantly placed in Kingston Penitentiary, widely regarded as one of Canada's most dangerous prisons. "The first attempt on my life was made within

days," he recalls. "They were placing bets on how long I would live." (He is now suing Corrections Canada for more than \$900,000 in damages for placing his life in danger from fellow inmates, but case goes to trial in Vancouver next month.)

Kelly survived 20 months at Kingston and is now housed in the comparative comfort of the medium-security William Head Institution, located on a picturesque peninsula 10 minutes west of Victoria. But prison life has visibly aged Kelly. His once-dark hair is fully grey, and the youthful face pictured in old photographs is now deeply lined. Despite his relatively relaxed surroundings—Kelly spoke to Maclean's in a prison boardroom and later personally escorted his visitor to the institution's gates—he is eager for his ordeal to end. "I'm looking forward to getting this over with," he says.

Danger, though, was a familiar companion to Kelly even before his conviction. Born in 1949 in Toronto, Kelly joined the RCMP in 1970. Less than two years later, he was assigned to work as an undercover agent, posing as a high-flying international smuggler trading in heroin and cocaine. In 1976, Patrick and Jeanette Kelly were married, just three months after the wedding of their close friends John Hensley, also an RCMP officer, and Dawn Tiber. But in 1980, Kelly left the force under a cloud: he was charged with setting fire to his own home two years earlier in order to collect insurance, an accusation that was later dismissed as a preliminary hearing. By then, he had already established himself in civilian life as an investment consultant.

But Kelly also had a covert second source of income that helped pay for his frequent extravagant affairs, for international holidays, a silver Porsche and the luxury condominium on the Toronto waterfront that he and Jeanette moved into after their house burned. After a decade of investigating international smuggling, Kelly had moved to the same business district, albeit on a farm that he deftly, secretly carrying large sums of cash out of South America on behalf of wealthy individuals or the Roman Catholic Church. "If they wanted to move their assets," he recalls, "I was available for 30 per cent of the asset." But, insists the former drug agent, "I did not join the other side. There were legitimate deals who wanted to flee South America for one reason or another."

Kelly also contends that relations with his

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were working in the spring of 1981, Jeanette, he says, went to the morning of March 20 packing for a trip to Italy, where she planned to attend a language school. Taber, he maintains, did not visit that day, as she has claimed, around 12:30 p.m. Kelly says that around 3 p.m., Jeanette took a taxi from the kitchen, where he was preparing tea, and went out onto the condominium's balcony to look for an answering machine in the hallway at the edge of the overhanging balcony one floor above. He says that he heard a noise and rushed out towards the balcony. "As I rounded the corner, I saw Jeanette falling backward. I ran to the edge of the balcony in an attempt to see her. I actually had my hands on her. Her fall by that time she was already moving out and down." Less than three minutes after the fall, witnesses later testified, Kelly was at his wife's side—crying, shaking and showing signs of shock.

Within a week, however, both Kelly's two aunts and Taber's intervention began to cast doubt on his version of events. Kelly flew to Hawaii with a girlfriend on a vacation that they had planned to coincide with Jeanette's absence in Italy. (Kelly and the girlfriend would later marry, separating again after his conviction.) Taber, meanwhile, contacted police within days of her death's death to tell them that the Kellys had signed his will. She said nothing, however, about having been at the couple's apartment that day.

Police would not arrest Kelly for nearly two years. In that time, he and his new wife moved to France. Taber moved back to her native United States, where she had grown up near the U.S.-Canada border to Miami. Taber, however, kept in touch with investigators. On February 1983, one of them travelled to New Hampshire for interviews, a week later, "Taber flew to Toronto. On March 5, 1983, police arrested Kelly, back in Canada on vacation, as he drove near Leafy Green.

At his trial, Taber repeated the account that she had given investigators. She had gone to the Kellys' apartment, she said, to make up after a quarrel with Jeanette the previous autumn. Waiting in the couple's den to accompany Jeanette to the airport, Taber testified, she overheard an argument in which Jeanette told her husband with her husband to come upstairs to "divorce." "I had a very loud scream," Taber said. "I then I heard the sound of somebody hitting somebody. Then nothing. I walked out to see what was going on. Jeanette was on the floor and

Patrick was bending over her, picking her up. He took Jeanette to the balcony and dropped her over the edge."

That account proved irresistible to jurors. At the end of the seven-week trial, they deliberated for only 13 hours before finding Kelly guilty of first-degree murder. Ontario Superior Court Justice John O'Donoghue, in turn, imposed the automatic sentence for that crime, imprisonment for life with no eligibility



Taber: "I did not see Kelly drop his wife off their balcony."

for parole for 22 years. Declared Kelly "Now I know how Donald Marshall felt." In fact, although legal appeals against his conviction failed, Kelly may now win a new trial at least in part through the efforts of Lomenberg, P.S. based writer Michael Harris, the author of an influential book about Marshall, the Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq wrongly imprisoned for 21 years for a murder that he did not commit.

Asked by Kelly in 1986 to investigate his conviction, Harris sought out Taber, who initially confirmed her testimony, she testified, that during numerous telephone conversations over the following years, Harris says that he gathered the impression that

Taber was disturbed by something about Kelly's conviction. What that was became clear only recently. "In September," says Harris, "I got a call from her, saying, 'I lied.'"

Taber, now a 40-year-old clerk at a Miami hotel who recently married for the third time, has since confirmed her new story in two signed affidavits, as well as in an interview with Marshall's defence team. She said that she called the Kellys' condominium on the day of Jeanette's death. She also says that she overheard an argument and a fall, and that she saw Jeanette Kelly "lying

motionless on the floor with Patrick standing over her." But, critics say, he is an affidavit signed on March 11. Taber declared "I now know I did not see Patrick Kelly drop his wife off their balcony. I now know that was a lie induced through a process of pressure and fear"—a process, she says, carried out by investigators.

With Taber's recantation in hand, Kelly's lawyers have now begun preparing an appeal to Federal Justice Minister Allan Rock under Section 690 of the Criminal Code. That section gives Rock wide powers to order a new trial—or even a full pardon—for convicts who have exhausted all other routes of appeal, in instances where a miscarriage of justice may have occurred. It was last invoked to free David Milgaard from prison in 1982, nearly 23 years after his conviction for a murder that he has always denied committing. Says Clayton Ruby, the Toronto defence lawyer who is acting for Kelly, "There was only one eyewitness to the crime."

That witness now says what she testified never happened. I think he's entitled to a new trial."

A pardon for Kelly seems unlikely, much more possible is a new trial. And

Taber's retreat from the crucial assertion that she witnessed Kelly murdering his wife is certain to undermine the credibility of any future testimony she may give. "The whole Crown case came down to one person: Dawn Taber," says Harris, who is writing a book about Kelly that is due for release next year. "How can you now say any part of what she said is true?"

In fact, Taber herself now appears to harbor doubts even about those parts of her story that she has clung to. Asked by Marshall's lawyer whether she could be certain that she was in the Kellys' apartment on the day of Jeanette's death, she replied, "I have quite trusted that." And in a telling conclusion to her most recent affidavit, Taber states that "at this point, I cannot distinguish with certainty what I learned from the police; and what I really know of my own knowledge and memory."

Kelly is aware that his account of his wife's fall is vulnerable to charges of implausibility. He has spent much of the past decade maintaining court support for his theoretical possibility. At the same time, Taber's recantation—under a system in which innocence is presumed and guilt must be proven—seems reasonably doubt—should give back reason to re-examine his review.

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# Backpack

A monthly report on personal health, life and leisure

## Surfing on the next wave

Being a couch potato is supposed to be easy. There is some basic equipment for the job: a television, a stereo with a compact-disc player, a VCR, probably a videogame system—well, all of course, at least one remote control. But thanks to new electronic products, leisure is about to get a lot more complicated. And at the core of the home-entertainment revolution is a relatively new technology based on an innocuous-looking, five-inch silver circle that letters watching compact disc read-only memory—better known as CD-ROM.

Developed by Jørg Philips of the Netherlands and Sony Corp. of Japan in 1985, CD-ROM is already revolutionizing the computer world. But that is only one aspect of the concept: disc's multimedia potential. A host of home-entertainment companies are now scrambling to take multimedia beyond the computer. And if these heavy hitters have their way, the new CD-ROM technology will raise the old TV/stereo equation stakes, radically changing the way Canadians learn and play.

Although they differ in several significant ways, the new technologies are all based on the CD-ROM. As an information storage device, it has few rivals: a single disc, which can be read with a laser-equipped drive that sells for between \$300 and \$1,000, can store 500 times more data than a conventional floppy disc—about 250,000 pages of text. That means storage capacity makes possible true multimedia presentations, incorporating the written word, high-quality graphics, music and even speech into everything from action games to educational programs and such reference materials as full-length encyclopedias. While the industry is still too young to be measured with any degree of certainty, the CD-ROM market is exploding. In the United States, sales of CD-ROM games, for example, are expected to increase by 130 per cent in the next 13 months.

But in a marketing perspective, computer CD-ROMs have one serious—and obvious—limitation: you need a computer to run them. There are consumers in about 25 per cent of Canadian homes, and the number is growing rapidly. But many of these machines are not powerful enough to cope with CD-ROM programs, which have widely varying sound, video and memory requirements.

To fill the gap, several electronics companies have recently developed CD-ROM-based systems for use with a device that just about everybody does have: a television. Leading the pack is Philips, which in 1988 began working in conjunction with Sony to create an international standard called CDS, short for compact disc-



Multimedia moves beyond the computer

interaction. The first Philips CD-i players appeared for sale in Europe about 2½ years ago, and in North America last year. Slightly smaller than a VCR, with a five-inch disc port, audio-video plugs and a remote control, the consumer version of the CD-i machine retails in Canada for \$700 and connects easily to a TV set in about five minutes. Turn on the power and insert a CD, and the interactive movie pops up on the TV screen.

Philips boasts more than 1,000 programs for the CD-i, including games and educational discs, music videos, encyclopedias and movies. Among the available discs, ranging in price from \$30 to more than \$1,800, is *The Fisher Space Opera*, a sci-fi simulation game in which players, using a remote-control badge and screen button to select clues and control the direction and power of their ship, turn 38 of the most difficult tales in the United States. The educational programs include *A Visit to Seneca: Stone—Jetties*, in which a child can point and click to get a clue out of Oscar the Grouch, Elmo and Bert or Big Bird—who with songs, speech and animation give lessons about the alphabet. "We go on the days of saying, 'You can't sit in front of the TV—go out and play,'" says John Demwick, manager of market development for the interactive technologies division of Philips Electronics of Canada. "Now you can play and learn in front of the TV, and however old you are, there's something for you."

According to Philips, about 500,000 of their CD-i players have been sold worldwide, and the company expects 1994 sales to reach

one million. One of the system's main selling points is versatility. Along with discs specifically programmed for the format, the CD-i can play regular audio CDs and Sony's new Photo CD discs. But perhaps the greatest potential lies in full-motion video (FMV), which allows 72 minutes of movie footage to be stored on a single CD. Two CD-i feature-length movies are now available for \$25 each. Philips claims that digital video discs played on a specially equipped CD-i machine—an add-on video cartridge costs an extra \$350—produce better quality images than VHS tapes. And the CD-i format has inherent advantages for video rental customers. It is smaller, cheaper to produce and lasts longer than tape. In the United States, Blockbuster Video (just-owned by Philips) is already renting out CD-i machines and movies on CD.

So on CD-i the best big wave is home entertainment? Cautious consumers may wish to check out real CD-ROM-based entertainment systems, such as the one developed by Trip Hawkins, a Redwood, Calif.-based high-tech guru. Hawkins's system, marketed as 3DO, boasts high-speed graphics processors not found in most home computers. The result, the three-year-old company claims, is stunning graphics and sound capability. "You can play audio CDs, Photo CDs and interactive CDs," says 3DO public relations manager Cindy McCallery. "This is really the kind of machine that can go in the living room and be an entertainment centre."

Unlike Philips, 3DO does not produce its own interactive CD-i players or software. Instead, it has formed partnerships with several high-powered companies in the entertainment and electronics field. Telecommunications giant AT&T is actively developing new video capabilities for the system, the Time Warner publishing empire is working on interactive software and printing CD-producing facilities. Last October, Matsushita Electric Industrial Co. of Japan, the world's largest consumer electronics maker, released its Pioneer PTA-302A 100 interactive Multiplayer system in the United States. The system, which costs \$500 (U.S.), will be released in Canada within the next two months.

And there's more. Lacking at the moment in the home entertainment industry for more than a decade has been the laser disc, a technology pioneered most heavily by Pioneer Electronic Corp. of Japan. While other companies aggressively marketed the VCR through the 1980s, Pioneer remained committed to laser disc players, which cost more than VCRs typically \$200 to \$1,500, but provide higher quality pictures. Now Pioneer is refining its closest of kin, the system with LaserActive, which will be introduced in Canada this summer. The system produces multimedia effects by combining graphics, graphics provided by Sega and NEC. Besides playing audio CDs and laser discs, the machine can combine the two discer capacities. CD-ROM and cartridge programs with exceptional sound and video background elements. The focus, says Andrew Skinner, laser disc software manager for Pioneer in Canada, will be an overriding program for the entire family. *Acids II* (Harris). "There are a number of discs designed so that parents and children can spend some quality time together in an A/V experience." The A/V experience, however, comes at a steep price: the LaserActive system is available in the United States for \$1,299 (U.S.), and in Canada will cost about \$288 each.

Have consumers with respect to the upcoming avalanche of CD-ROM-based systems managed to be seen? But the interactive market is not about to get any simpler. Computer manufacturers in Canada have recently released its Amiga C120 (the 3DO refers to the method of data transfer) system, and the official release of Atari's super hot Jaguar is scheduled for June. "And really, you know, you have to look at Sega and Nintendo and Sony, and their design-oriented systems, which will likely be around in 18 months or so," says HAWKINS. "Where we see the competition." One thing is for sure: a whole lot is looking for the coaches and remote-control kids of Canadians—not to mention their pocketbooks.

JOE CHIDLEY

## The Top Five CD-ROMs

Interactive CD-i may be the shape of things to come, but CD-ROM discs for computers are still the hottest fad of multimedia software. Canadians will spend close to \$1 billion on them this year. The best-sellers and to be general reference and educational titles, although games and software photography are rising increasingly large slices of the market. The list below is in Canada (based on a random sampling of retailers in Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver).



**1. The New Great British Encyclopedia** (Oxford Electronic Publishing, \$189) One of the best general reference

CD-ROM titles. Contains the entire text of Oxford's 21-volume, 30,000-volume *Encyclopaedia Britannica*, plus video lectures, narrated animations, audio examples and photographs.

### 2. Microsoft Encarta

(Microsoft Corp., \$149) The 1994 edition of Microsoft's encyclopedias includes more than eight hours of digital recordings, as well as 250 sets of sounds of birds and animals and more than 1,500 graphic pronunciations. Text entries based on Funk and Wagnall, are often brief.



**3. Arthur's Teacher Timeouts** (Broderbund Software, \$89) An educational disc for children aged 5 to 10. Arthur is a young student who is nervous about an

upcoming spelling contest. Using a mouse, children can hear and see objects by clicking on them. From the company that produced the popular *Where in the World's the Camel?* series.



space war. Currently the best-selling CD-ROM in the United States.

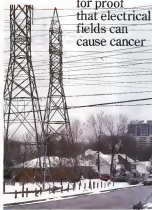
**5. Compton's Interactive Encyclopedia** (Compton's, \$799) Includes detailed editorial files from U.S. and world history. The 1995 edition, on sale this fall, will be among the first CD-ROMs to incorporate a new web speech-recognition technology, allowing users to search for names with voice commands.

## Highly charged suspicions

**D**uring the past few years, Maria Miller has become something of an expert on electromagnetic fields (EMFs)—the invisible energy fields given off by power lines and electronic devices, including household appliances. Warned that her husband and her brother, who work with computers, might be exposed to hazardous levels of electromagnetic radiation, which is suspected of causing cancer, the Toronto housewife bought a detector that measures the strength of EMFs and began testing her family's environment. The levels were reasonably low, she discovered, but she decided to move a bed upstairs after concluding that it was too close to a line carrying electricity into the house. Miller even took her detector along to a day care centre two years ago. Finding that EMF levels there were high, she decided against enrolling the youngest of her two sons, aged 8 and 10. "I'm not just concerned about my own family," says Miller. "I worry about electrical fields because I don't want my friends or their kids getting it."

For some Canadians, fear of EMF exposure is beginning to loom as large as more traditional worries about polluted air and water. And scientists have yet to find any proof of a link between EMFs and human illness. Instead, statistics suggest they might be a confounder. Typically, the latest major study, a joint Canadian-French project involving 225,000 utility workers in Ontario, Quebec and Prince Edward Island, found no overall link between exposure to magnetic fields and 15 types of cancer. But it did point to a possible link between exposure to EMFs and one type of leukemia. The study, said Carl Blackman, a biologist with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency laboratory in Research Triangle Park, N.C., "is saying that something is going on here and we need to do more research."

Suspicions of a link between EMFs and cancer have been growing since 1979, when two University of Colorado scientists reported an increased risk of leukemia among children who were exposed to stronger than average magnetic fields around their houses. Studies since then have produced further evidence of some kind of EMF



Power house: The process of discovery is going to take time.

cancer link—but no clear proof.

Dr. Anthony Miller, chairman of the University of Toronto's department of preventive medicine, who analyzed data from Ontario Health workers during the Franco-Canadian study, said that the correlation may stem from the fact that scientists have yet to determine how magnetic fields could play a role in the development of cancer. "Since we haven't identified the biological mechanisms that may be involved," said Miller, it may be that surveys aimed at finding a link "aren't studying the right factors." Blackman and a colleague are working on a theory to explain how magnetic fields may cause changes within living cells. Under certain conditions, Blackman said, electromagnetic waves can affect the way some charged particles—atoms and molecules—behave within a cell. "Our results," added Blackman, "do not indicate that there is a hazard from magnetic fields. The process of discovery on that issue is going to take a long time."

Meanwhile, more studies are under way. In the United States, cancer rates among nearly 140,000 current and former electrical workers at five large power utilities are being studied in a project backed by the Electric Power Research Institute of Palo Alto, Calif. And in a study involving 400 children stricken with leukemia in the four western provinces and the greater Montreal area, scientists are trying to determine whether magnetic fields could have played a role in causing the disease. As well as measuring magnetic fields in the children's environments, researchers are interviewing the children's families. Mary McLintock, an epidemiologist with the British Columbia Cancer Agency in Vancouver, said that one purpose of the entire

study is to see whether "there is some other environmental factor involved which was not measured in previous studies."

Even if none of the suspicions about EMFs have been confirmed, a growing number of Canadians are taking steps to avoid unnecessary exposure to electromagnetic fields, which are measured in units called milligauss (mG). A person standing directly under a 500-kilovolt transmission line could be exposed to 140 mG. By comparison, some hair dryers can generate up to 750 mG at a range of six inches, while an older electric clock can register 100 mG. For those who worry about EMFs, the best advice is to keep your distance. EMFs for most small appliances decline rapidly at a range of two or three feet. Another option is to do what Maria Miller did: buy a \$200 magnetometer field detector and measure for yourself the invisible electromagnetic waves that may—or may not—give a hazard to your health.

MARK NICHOLES

SAVES

GOALS

**NOT TOO LONG AGO, IN A HALIFAX MALL, MOM EARNED HER FIRST SHUT-OUT.**

She was every bit as good as an NHL goaltender. ☐ Bouncing the net in the Virtual Reality Goalie Challenge. ☐ Over the last year, a TSN/RDS Hockey Hall of Fame exhibit has been set up in malls across our country entertaining fans of the game from Vancouver to Halifax. ☐ People of all ages have been able to look at NHL trophies and other displays, get autographs from hockey heroes and play games like the Goalie Challenge. ☐ It almost goes without saying it gives us at TSN and RDS a lot of pleasure to be sponsors of the new Hockey Hall



International Division of the Canada  
Aired nationwide at 6 p.m.

1994

of Fame. As well as to make the heritage of hockey more accessible to all of Canada.



# Backpack

## Pillow power

Air bags save lives, but they can also injure. The experts offer some advice.

**L**ike robots, crowds of browsers in new car showrooms are a sure sign of spring. And with the North American economy finally showing signs of life, auto industry officials are betting that this is the year many of those browsers will finally become buyers. Those who do will likely find that their new vehicle has a feature their old one lacked: an air bag. An estimated 90 per cent of all new cars sold in North America in 1994 will be fitted with a driver's-side bag, and more than 50 per cent will have a passenger-side bag as well. The added protection that such equipment provides was graphically illustrated by a horrific collision in Toronto earlier this month between a Ford Taurus and a Chrysler Neon. According to a police officer, four of the nine people injured in the crash "would have been dead for sure" were it not for the fact that both cars had air bags.

But what many people do not know is that air bags themselves can cause injuries. The most common problems are scrapes and bruises, which can result when a rapidly inflating bag, travelling at speeds of up to 300 km/h, slaps a driver or passenger on the face or upper body. In a small number of other cases, drivers have suffered broken bones because their hands or arms were in the path of the inflating bag; for example, resting on the steering wheel hub that houses the air bag. The experts' advice: sit as far back as is comfortable, and keep your hands on the steering wheel rim. Another important tip is to avoid using a rear-facing child safety restraint in the front seat of a car with a passenger-side air bag. As the bag explodes, it can slam the child restraint into the back of the seat.

According to the preliminary results of a study in Miami, survivors of crashes involving air bag equipped cars sometimes suffer severe, long-term injuries, including broken feet and ankles. The most injuries were sustained by people who were not wearing a seat belt. In collisions, they tended to slide under the air bag, causing their legs or knees into the instrument panel.

The U.S. government has passed legislation making dual air bags mandatory on all 1996-model domestic and import cars. But there is a law requiring them in Canada, as yet being debated. Transport Canada says the cost of enforcing such a regulation would outweigh its benefits. The department's research showed that a driver using an air bag in combination with a seatbelt was 10 per cent less likely to die and 25 per cent less likely to suffer a critical injury than a driver using a seatbelt alone. However, an air bag used on its own provided only about half as much protection from death or injury as a seatbelt. (Despite the differences in the two countries' laws, cars intended for sale in Canada generally have the same air bag equipment as U.S.-specification models.) Meanwhile, the industry is continuing



### Taking care with air bags

Most air-bag injuries occur when the driver or passenger comes into contact with the bag while it is still deflating. To reduce the risk of injury, experts recommend that car occupants should:

1. Always wear a seat belt.
2. Don't sit in the bag room to inflate. Passengers should move the front seat as far back as they can while keeping the seat-belt web over the strongest part of the pelvis. Drivers should sit at least eight inches from the steering wheel.
3. Keep hands and arms away from the steering wheel hub, where the bag is housed.
4. Avoid rear-facing child safety seats only in the back seat of cars equipped with passenger-side air bags.

to look for ways to make driving safer. While today's air bags provide protection in head-on collisions, scientists are seeking ways to reduce injuries from side-impact crashes. That presents a new set of problems. Because a car's door provides less protection than its front end, a side-impact bag would have to inflate even faster than a conventional

air bag. David Vance, principal research scientist with General Motors Corp. (GM) in Warren, Mich., says that car manufacturers are also trying to determine the best location for a side-bag in the door area, on the outside edge or on the side of the seat. Side-impact bags will be available on some cars beginning this fall.

The next step is to develop technologies that can sense accidents even before they happen. Vance said that GM is currently experimenting with radar, infrared and ultrasonic sensing devices that could trigger a side-impact bag to inflate a split second before impact. Similar devices could warn drivers not to back up or switch lanes when there is a risk of an accident. After all, the best way to survive an accident is to avoid it in the first place.



**IT TAKES MORE THAN A HOCKEY BROADCAST TO REACH SOME KIDS.**

For the kids on the Rankin Reserve, it took a little human connect. □ The kind Ted Nolan, former Rankin resident and winning coach of the South Greyhounds, brought to a boy struggling to perfect a wrist shot.

- And the special knack for instilling confidence displayed by broadcaster and ex-NHL coach Gary Green. And in renowned power-skating instructor Marianne Wukitch's magical ability to correct a bad stride.
- For forty-two boys and girls facing the onset of another north shore winter, we couldn't think of a better way to reach them than through TSN's community hockey clinic program.

about the only thing open to debate was the question of

who got more out of it... them or us



International Star of the Academy  
Award nominated as in 1994



### Injuries caused by air bags\*

Type and location of injuries	Head	Neck	Chest	Upper body	Other	Total
Strikes	126	16	91	2	2	225
Burns	26	25	44	6	134	
Hit	34	9	15	0	49	
Run	7	9	30	1	36	
Trapped	2	0	2	0	4	
Struck by	2	0	1	0	3	
Overhead	2	0	0	0	2	
TOTAL	204	47	163	7	132	

Source: \*Based on a U.S. government study of statistics as of July 1, 1993.

REDAWIA WICKENS



## PEOPLE

### Hitting stride

**A**cross *Barbush Crawford* plays that the on-ly person likely to be shocked by her first feature film is her mother. And, she adds jokingly, that is only if they leave the nude scenes in *Falling in Toronto* this month. *When Night is Falling* is told as a sexual love story between two women. Crawford plays Petra, a free-spirited woman who disrupts the life of a young, respectable Christian woman. But the 31-year-old Crawford, whose credits include regular appearances on TV's *E.N.G.* and *Bremner Place*, says that reviewers are ready to accept different kinds of love on the silver screen. The film, she says, is "a beautiful love story between two people." In her role, adds Crawford, she is finally living her life. "On other sets, I looked at the other actors and saw how experienced and wise they were and I felt so young," she says. "But now, I feel like I'm a grown-up too. And I'm just having a blast."

Crawford: "Just a beautiful love story"



### Street rap

**H**e is a Canadian in an industry dominated by Americans. And *Maestro Fresh Wes* plays it to the hilt with his recently released fourth album, *Maestro, the Kid Can't Be From Canada* (1997, Scarborough, Ontario: FreshWes, whose real name is Wesley Williams). First hit the top of Canada's music charts in 1990, after dropping out of university to pursue his music career. His first album, *2nd Place in 1st Street*, inspired him a No. 1 hit—*Let Your Backlash Slide*. After his



Williams: "unique to the individual"

third album—one hitting gold—the rapper, now 26, headed to the United States, where the genre has a broader fan base. But although he lives in Brooklyn, N.Y., his roots make his music distinctive. "It's all unique to the individual," he says. Rap, he adds, is a "work of creativity," and even greater rap—wildly accented of glamorizing violence—is art. "There's politics and violence going on all around us," he explains. "Rap just reflects what's happening on the streets."

### A Canadian friend in need

**V**alerie Martin has established herself as one of America's top travelists. But the author of *The Great Outdoors*, about three women's struggles with love, career and nature, says that she owes part of her success to one of Canada's foremost writers: Margaret Atwood. After publishing three novels in the 1970s, Martin recalls, "I'd get very pleasant reactions." "This is a wonderful book, but we can't do it." Then, almost a decade ago, while

teaching at the University of Alabama, she New Orleans native met Atwood, who was then an writer-in-residence. After reading Martin's work, she recommended the unpublished books to her own editor, Nan A. Talese. Four Talese-edited books later, Martin and Atwood remain friends. Indeed, Martin said Atwood's *The Handmaid's Tale* is successful. Did she suggest changing "No," she replies. "I just said, 'I think you're going to become very rich.'"



Forever Plaid's *Plaid* is a *Plaid* from the past

### Forever nostalgic

**W**hat do you do if you didn't come of age in the 1960s, can't remember the 1970s and want to forget the 1980s? Simple: recreate the 1960s. At least that's the strategy of *Forever Plaid*, *Laurens Follows*, 31, and *Jeffrey Laitner*, 30—the guiding lights behind the Toronto production of *Forever Plaid*, seen by more than 125,000 people since it opened last spring. In May, a parallel production will open in Vancouver, and in August a third version will travel across Canada, hitting Kelowna, B.C., Edmonton, Winnipeg, London, Ont., Ottawa and Montreal. Follows and Laitner credit the musical's popularity to its evocation of a kinder, gentler time. The story follows the magical return to earth of four dream-harmony singers called *Forever Plaid*, who were killed in a car crash by a bus carrying a group of schoolgirls to the 1964 debut of the Beatles on *The Ed Sullivan Show*. "The Plaid caused student politics, the women's movement and AIDS," says Laitner. "They provide a little bit of hope of what can be again, because they don't know any different." Ignorance, a virtue, is still bliss.

"My telephone is my secret ingredient."



**L**ana Moore owns and operates Lana's Famous Totes. With a retail outlet based out of the St. Lawrence market on Saturdays, Lana also sells homemade totes to restaurants and caterers throughout Toronto.

Lana's telephone and fax are crucial business tools. "I do 80% of my business by phone and fax. They're a very important ingredient," says Lana. "I chose Bell equipment and services because I needed a flexible system."

Lana's Bell rep sat down with her to design a solution to accommodate her business' unique needs. An important addition was a hands-free Memstar 9316 set so that Lana wouldn't have to interrupt her baking in order to answer the telephone. With Bell SmartTouch™ service features like Call Answer, Lana is free to leave the office without missing calls. Call Waiting and Call Display allow her to prioritize business and personal calls, while Bell Ident-a-Call™ service gives callers the experience of a two-line business. Also, in order to cut costs, Lana is on the Bell TelePlan™ savings plan, so that she saves money on long distance calls. Adds Lana, "Now I have four employees...me, my two babies and Bell."

Let us bring the right mix to your business.

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That's why Lana Moore chose Bell.

**Bell**

\*Memstar is a trade mark of Northern Telecom

# News. News. News.

## 680 News's ALL NEWS RADIO

### TELEVISION

## Raising cartoons to art

It's the tight little world of film animation, Frederick Back is a legend. The Montrealer, who turned 70 last week, has been winning accolades almost from the moment he first began drawing children's cartoons for Radio-Canada: the CBC's French language service, four decades ago. Over the years, his work has captured just about every major international prize available, including a pair of Oscars. At the Walt Disney Studios outside Los Angeles, where they know a thing or two about cartoons, he is quite simply revered. "Back is unique," declares Glen Keane, the Disney animator whose credits include *Beauty and the Beast*, *Aladdin*, *The Little Mermaid* and the upcoming animated feature *Pocahontas*. "In 300 years, people will see him as a master, an innovator who took animation into the realm of serious art, not just a form of entertainment to occupy the kids."

In that category is Back's latest Oscar-nominated work, which the CBC is airing on April 16 at 10 p.m. *The Mighty River*, produced and co-written by Robert Thion, is a history of the St. Lawrence, 24 episodes of wondrous animation that traces the river from its pristine birth in the Ice Age down through the war-torn destruction and near death wrought by the humans who have settled along its shores. The river and its once-beautiful life are painted as Back's trademark: pastel hues, startlingly detailed, ultra-achingly beautiful, sometimes dark and chilling. And like all of the animator's best work, the film is clearly a labor of love, the result of four years' painstaking effort etching 17,000 separate drawings to sketch square frames of frosted white. "I felt that I had to do something to help save the St. Lawrence," explains Back, who recently retired after a 41-year career with Radio-Canada. "What we've done to that river, which has been so important in the life of this country, is nothing short of tragic."

Back, who came to Canada from France in 1948 to teach art, earned his first Oscar in 1969 with *Chariot*, a 15-minute look at Quebec's history from the viewpoint of an old, discarded rocking chair. Six years later, he landed another Oscar for *The Man Who Planted Trees*. Widely regarded as Back's master-



Scene from *The Mighty River* doing something 'to help save the St. Lawrence.'

piece, the film is a moving, exuberantly drawn account of a shepherd's single-minded devotion to the task of restoring an arid, war-torn range of mountains. When it was released seven years ago, it not only created a sensation but actually prompted people, chair fires especially, to go out and plant trees.

"The reaction to *The Man Who Planted Trees* is what inspired me to do *The Mighty River*," says Back. "I began to think that maybe I could do the same for the St. Lawrence."

**HARRY CAINE** in Montreal with **ANNE GREGG** in Los Angeles

## DON'T LET DEPRESSION GO UNCHECKED

### SIGNS OF DEPRESSION

- ☐ Feeling of emptiness or hopelessness
- ☐ Loss of interest in activities previously enjoyed
- ☐ Changes in sleep or appetite
- ☐ Changes in weight
- ☐ Feeling of guilt, hopelessness or worthlessness
- ☐ Difficulty concentrating or making simple decisions
- ☐ Thoughts of death or suicide
- ☐ Changes in talk or energy
- ☐ Exaggeration or depression
- ☐ Changes in thinking ability, memory loss or loss of interest in life
- ☐ Thoughts of self-harm or suicide

If the signs on this list sound familiar, don't ignore them. If you or someone you know has been experiencing several of these signs for two weeks or more, it could be depression. It's an illness that is effectively treated in four out of five people who seek help.

Get the facts about depression today.

For a free brochure about depression, call  
**1-800-268-0999**



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**THE WONDERFUL, HORRIBLE  
LIFE OF LEVI REEFENSTAL**  
*Directed by Zee Moller*

### Reappraising Germany's most controversial film-maker

side of a brilliant career that went terribly wrong. Stefanello started out as a dancer, but in 1935 her photo caught the eye of Arnold Fanck, a German director of mountain movies. At 23, she starred in the first of seven alpine adventures for Fanck—she clambered up pineapples burrled, dangled over crevasses and survived an avalanche. Then in 1932, she wrote, produced, directed and starred in a heliopic called *The Blue Light*.

Fans of *The Blue Light* included Hitler, who commissioned her to film a Nazi rally in 1933. He was so pleased with the results that he



**Hierarchical:** she insists that she was unaware of the Nazi agenda

Wendryn, *Reverend Left*, however, avoids passing judgment on its subject. If anything, it leans towards empathy and admiration. As an interviewer, Miller is on watch for his subject, who often falls back to live like a time-pressed diva. Still, the film, which requires her co-operation, has a whiff of authorial biography to it. Almost nothing is revealed of Rabinowitz's personal life: she has lived with technician Horst Kötter, 42 years her junior, since 1983, not to mention how she has managed to preserve herself so miraculously well—where is Barbara Walters when you need her?

## Crazy love and a crazy mom

#### FOUR WEDDINGS AND A FUNERAL

Bravely directed by Mike Newell, *Unhooked* is a comedy that takes a peek at champagne both at wonderfully silly moments. It features a collection of English toasts of Mandy Patinkin, Rowan Atkinson, and a hilarious cameo as a minister of the night. And out of the blue, an action movie scene provides an oasis of relief. The movie is weakened by a string with a lot of poorly sketched characters—a romance *Four Weddings* the moldshift quality of a bad one there is more than enough laughter with ending.

**SAVAGE NIGHTS**  
Directed by Cyril Collins

It has become a cliché of French handsome, self-obsessed men to overcome his ennui by seducing girl and makes a mess of her life: case of *Savage Night*: the farmer



MacDermott, Graeme riding on a pink-changamane froth

Knowing all that, it is hard to watch the film without some reverence for the reality behind it. That the protagonist, a ransomed man named Jean Kolhard, inspires so little sympathy that he quickly becomes just another anonymous jerk is another dumb French move about myopic romance. Autobiographical though it may be, the story is hard to swallow on several counts. Jean fails to tell his teenage lover

With its lyrical images and bold depiction of gay sex, the film makes a startling impression. As Hobergner delivers a brilliant performance opposite the emotionally vacant Collard. Unfortunately, the movie is about him, not her. Despite its exotic lustre of authenticity, at the heart of *Scraps Night* is a man staring at himself in the mirror and drawing a blank.

**SERIAL KIDNAP**  
Discovered by John Walters

who yokes obscure ghost cells to a star, and starts marinating people who are—such as a boyfriend who ditches aghast, a teacher who embezzles her son's drug-violent crimes and a video-store worker who refuses to record a tape. The six marvels, and Turner creates a direct imitation: a *homeless* out of a 1949 magazine ad. But in the second social satire given way to car-chase and sitcom plots. What begins as a TV-suburban ends up playing like a 16-mm ruse of camp overload.



# The pressing issues in Ottawa

BY ALLAN FOTHERINGHAM

Ottawa does strange things to people. Capitals of countries are supposed to expand the mind, to broaden one. Residents of Rome, of London, of Paris, feel larger and more knowing, rewarded by the experience of living in world-class cities where ideas are exciting and personalities enlightening.

Ottawa shrinks the mind. People think tiny thoughts. Small problems are magnified. Tiny issues are manufactured into major crises. That which is small is thought big. This is a town of litigation.

So it is with Preston Manning and his depressing fall. Read the sorrow coming out of Ottawa. View the television clips coming from Ottawa. Suddenly the largest issue in the land is how much Preston was given to keep his seat when he lost an election.

The Quebec election could be held this spring, without conflict. At any rate it has to be held by October. The future of the country is six months away and the press is worried about Preston's expense account.

The shortage of the cash in Ottawa is due both to its wonderland and its bureaucracy. Though it is the house of government, the capital knows true all the money and power rests in Toronto, all its problems reside in Quebec. It feels left out of the equation, therefore it turns around and looks from behind to the rest of the world. It richly distinguishes the important issues from the unimportant.

Became it is made, a small cry compared with Montreal or Toronto, it takes on all the characteristics of, say, Blue-Canada or Powell River—everybody writes for the same employer. Whether politicians, interest groups or reporters all suck from the same teat. Much of the result is producer's lament.

If the press thinks Preston's stained shirt is more important than Quebec, the politicians consider themselves that this must be so and the mind expands going over lunch in the Belles-Îles Club as to whether the Belles-Îles is still a lake, a group beach.

In the past, in the real world, Daniel Johnson strung to invent a personality for



himself—a rather strenuous chair for a grown man—and the Paris Quebecan attempts to protect a self-appointing name that would check Jacques Preston's arrogance whenever he appears in print.

As the serious political scientists tell us, there are a thousand and one responsibilities in the scenario of a Quebec separation. A separate army? A separate post office? Separate environmental laws? Securities regulations? A separate CBC?

Preston takes the nonsense that he would use the Canadian dollar as currency and Quebec citizens could retain their Canadian passports. Does he have the business illusion that Saskatchewan would stand for this?

Not. Levesque's rather whimsical idea—see television in regard to the subject—was something called sovereignty-association. As someone circled it, sovereignty is association in the divorce with hard privileges.

Preston (and Lucien Bouchard) claim that they'll go for the real thing, Levesque being downgraded now as a man who didn't have the nerve to go for the bundle. But they don't want the big no-holds. They want the protection of the Canadian currency, the Canadian navy to patrol Quebec's coast, the terms of Canada's NAFTA agreement with the United States and Mexico.

To demonstrate Ottawa's commitment to Quebec, the government, starting with the Trudeau era, built a mansion of towers across the river in Hull to house governmental employees and governmental departments. What would an independent Quebec do with these massive towers? Put them on a large and fast ferry across the river to the Ontario side? Use them as a place for open bar and music?

We would love to know. Meanwhile, the press pursues how much it costs to press Preston's pants. With an independence election possible before the equally named Canada Day in Parliament Hill, the parliamentary press policy does the easy stuff, covering the daily Quebec Period since, the house of spurious outrage and unassured reflection, eager for the word look, the words, the insult, the denial.

Instead, waiting in Quebec are PQ politicians who might be asked how they plan to run in Hull. The St. Lawrence. Sooner. Will they assume the proportion of the national debt equal to their population? How, exactly, would they replace the pensions of Quebec citizens that must come from the common pool in Ottawa?

These matters must, of course, wait to be put on hold, while the urgent matter of Preston and his depressing belt is considered. As the incomprehensible White-water paper is to the Washington press, Preston's depressed pants are to the Ottawa media. It is easy, it is clear, no level required, simple to explain.

What would Preston's Quebec do to replace federal support of Quebec, unimportant? All those federally funded museums in Montreal? All those CBC choirs?

There is the main assumption, in the important thing, that Lucien Bouchard travelling to the United Nations and making speeches to Washington Republicans is taking the high road. There is the innocent belief that the terms of any possible separation of Quebec from Canada will be determined by Quebec.

It won't. The terms, if ever comes to that, will be determined by the more other provinces and by the federal government in Ottawa. The speech does not dictate the rules on knowing.

In the meantime, the national press worries about the egg stains on Preston's lapels.

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